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WEEKLY WORLD
NEWS
August 10, 1999 $1.49 U.S. $1.99 CANADA

WORLD EXCLUSIVE!

BOY KEEPS ON GROWING . . . AND GROWING . . . AND GROWING

WORLD'S BIGGEST KID!

12 YEARS OLD AND . . .

584 LBS!

This one
5J01-4MH-GPAJ

HE'S 12 YEARS OLD AND . . .

584 LBS!

WORLD'S BIGGEST KID!

WORLD EXCLUSIVE!

JELLY-BELLIED Xuejian Dong weighs five feet, two inches tall and watches television 14 hours a day!

IANJIN, China — Scale-nching schoolboy Xuejian g is the world's fattest kid, a -pound porker who waddles ough life like an overstuffed trus, watching TV 14 hours a day and wolfing down dumplings, cks and dried-apricot cakes by e dozen!

The tub-of-lard 12-year-old already arts a bovine-size 79-inch waistline — d dumbfounded docs say he's packing re shivering, quivering flab onto his 5-foot, nch frame every single day.

"My boy's a good child with a heart of gold, but he loves to eat — d he eats more than most people can possibly imagine," saint ejian's astonished mom Mei-ling, 34.

"We've tried to control his appetite, but nothing seems to work. It's ood thing we live on a farm where we can produce most of his food rselves or he would have eaten us into the poorhouse many years n."

During the course of an average day, the chubby-cheeked *chowhound* rfs down:

- A dozen ducks or chickens — oasted, baked or barbecued.
- Fifteen gut-busting bowls of illed noodles.
- A mind-boggling ten pounds — ump little dumplings filled with meat d vegetables.
- Two pounds of carp — cooked or steamed.
- Two dozen ducks' eggs.
- A dozen calorie-packed cakes made with dried apricots or other fruit.

"Xuejian is hungry from the minute he wakes up, so I always have wo dozen fried eggs waiting for him n the table," his amazed mom told a reporter.

"He eats those, and then he just keeps on eating for the rest of the day until it's time for bed."

When he reached the quarter-ton mark, strapping Xuejian had to quit school and enlist a private tutor — because he could no longer squeeze his beer-barrel body through the classroom door. And the King Kong kid has to sleep on a bed of bricks because his sheer dimes of blubber reduces ordinary wooden beds to kindling and splinters.

Despite his gargantuan girth, docs say the ever-expanding Xuejian is in near-perfect health. But his doting dad Zuoyi says a recent, horrifying incident has convinced him the jelly-bellied seventh-grader should go on a diet.

"Two months ago, I took my son to town and we stayed at an inn with heavy steel beds," recalled still-trembling Zuoyi, 36. "We slept on the same bed to save money, and in the middle of the night, Xuejian rolled on top of me.

"The boy nearly crushed the life out of me before I could wake him up. That's when I decided he must lose weight fast — before he accidentally falls on someone and suffocates them like a 380-pound pillow."

Titanic tub of lard eats 12 chickens, two dozen eggs, 10 pounds of carp and much, much more EVERY DAY!

By JOE BERGER
Weekly World News

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BIO-WARFARE HORROR!

WASHINGTON — Dumbo Russian scientists have dumped thousands of tons of the most deadly bacteria known to man on a remote island in the Aral Sea — and U.S. officials fear wild-eyed terrorists will get their hands on enough of the stuff to wipe out every human on the face of the Earth!

Russians dumped tons of deadly germs on unguarded island — where anti-U.S. terrorists can steal them!

"The heart and soul of Russia's old germ warfare program is sitting out there for the taking, and if the wrong people get hold of even a tiny fraction of it, there may not be many of us left by this time next year," one high-ranking CIA source said.

"When you realize that 1.3 billion people could die between screaming deaths from this stuff, there is no way to overstate the potential danger."

The terrifying tale began in the spring of 1988, when Soviet scientists secretly packed up 13,000 tons of bacteria spores — horrifying organisms capable of triggering such dread diseases as anthrax, tularemia, brucellosis and plague — and shipped them to Vozrozhdeniye Island between the former Soviet republics of Uzbekistan and Kazakstan.

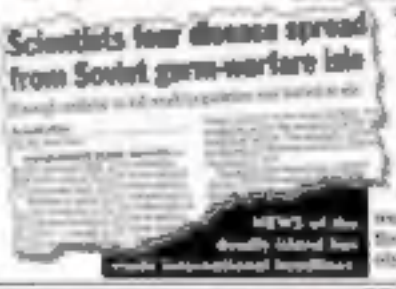
At the time, top Commie Mikhail Gorbachev was trying to put the kibosh on the Cold War by buddying up to America and its allies. With that in mind, convincing Mikhail decided to banish his nation's stockpile of bacteria to that faraway island in the Aral Sea before the West discovered that Soviet germ-warfare factories were still spewing out the killer spores in violation of Russia's treaty agreements.

"The scientists' orders were to take the powder containing the biological warfare agents to Vozrozhdeniye Island and to destroy the bacteria," the CIA source told a reporter. "But as might be expected, they botched the job completely.

"Once on the island, the scientists poured bleach over the powder and buried it in pits. But much of the bacteria survived and is still alive today, crawling around out there in the dirt.

"With security on the island almost nonexistent, there is little to prevent terrorists and governments hostile to the West from getting their hands on it.

"And once they do, Heaven help us all — because they'll be capable of touching off an epidemic that'll make AIDS and the Black Death of the 14th century look like an outbreak of measles at your local school."



GUYS BEWARE! Neckties can make you go blind, say docs!

Wearing a tie could make you go blind, according to an amazing new study by medical researchers.

The loss of blood and oxygen to the brain and eyes can be restricted by neckties, says Dr. Donald Powell.

Eye specialists have conducted a medical study comparing the sight of men wearing ties and those who don't.

They found that men who wear ties are more likely to suffer impaired vision and even partial blindness.

"There's nothing like ties that could tell the difference between a steady beam of light and a flickering light," said Dr. Powell.

HOT research!

The U.S. Forest Service has dedicated a 4-square-mile wilderness area solely to growing, searching for chiltepine chili peppers. The spicy juice of the chilies will be used in research to

Stunning starlet Cherilyn Shea has more to offer than a fabulous face and a fantastic physique. Scrumptious Cherilyn, who's strutted her stuff in such big-screen offerings as *Underground* and *Dylan*, as well as the TV movie *Committee of Love*, is also a talented dancer who has appeared in music videos alongside the likes of The B-52's. And as if that weren't enough, the leggy lady is an expert ship and precision driver — and she can fire a pistol with the best of them.

If you'd like to see your Page 5 Girl send a picture, a phone number where you can be reached and some information about yourself to Page 5, Weekly World News, 600 East Coast Ave., Lantana, Fla.

BE A WISE-ASS TO GET MORE OUT OF LIFE

. . . says top psychologist

By JUNE SAWYER
Weekly World News

You can be happier and more successful in life by creatively breaking the rules, a psychologist reveals.

Breaking rules — or being a wise-ass, so to speak — can help you land a new job, get a promotion or raise, meet Mr. or Miss Right, and solve just about any social or business problem, declared Dr. Gary Emery, author of the book *Own Your Own Life*.

Here he lists some of the rules we all encounter in life — and tells how to break them creatively:

RULE: Always take things one step at a time.

INSTEAD: Take shortcuts whenever possible. Decide what you want in life, then determine the quickest way to get it.

Suppose that a homemaker wants to become a writer. Most people would start out by writing for their church newsletter or a local newspaper. But if you really think you can write, why not start out by trying to write that book?

RULE: Always go through "proper channels" to get what you want.

INSTEAD: It's usually better to take the most direct path to what you want.

"If you want a raise, promotion or time off from work, for instance, go directly to the boss and try to avoid middlemen who may present obstacles," said Dr. Emery.

Be sure to tell people you're bypassing of your intentions ahead of time.

RULE: Never let on that you don't understand something you've heard.

INSTEAD: Keep asking a speaker to repeat something until you do understand it. Instead of pretending to follow a conversation, speak up and say, "Could you please fill me in so I can follow what you're saying?"

RULE: Anything worth doing is worth doing well.

INSTEAD: Give new activities a try even if you can't do them as well as others.

Don't let an irrational fear of doing poorly make you pass up a new hobby, a new relationship or career.

RULE: If you don't receive an invitation to an event, never ask the host about it.

INSTEAD: Let the host know of your interest in attending. It's always possible that you were simply forgotten when invitations were sent, or the host didn't know you wanted to attend.

RULE: You only succeed in life by "trying harder."

INSTEAD: Try to work "smarter" instead of "harder."

Said Dr. Emery: "You'll find you can do your job more effectively by learning exactly what's expected of you and doing just that, instead of trying to do too many things."

BIGFOOT HAS LITTLE FEET!

SEATTLE, Wash. — Bigfoot is actually misnamed, researchers now say. For a creature 8-10 feet tall, the bulky apelike man-beast actually has relatively small feet!

Zoologists reached that surprising conclusion after examining casts made from tracks left behind by the elusive monster.

JUST FOR LAUGHS The owner of a ritzy restaurant said to a new employee, "Wash those dishes!" The fella said, "But sir, I'm a college graduate." The

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Drunken jet passenger asks man to "step outside" — and falls 12,000 feet to his death!

By CHARLES GEORGE
Weekly World News

A drunken airline passenger was killed when he asked a fellow passenger to "step outside" — then opened a door and plunged 12,000 feet to his death!

Edgar Burkeman, 44, apparently was upset that another passenger refused to trade seats with him, according to witnesses. Burkeman exchanged words with fellow passenger Bob Gregory before getting physical.

"This guy was pretty drunk and he was looking to pick a fight," Gregory recalled. "He poked me in the chest a few times with his finger and then asked me if I wanted to step outside.

"I thought he surely must have been kidding, but then he got up and started toward the door," Gregory said. "And then before any of the stewardesses realized what he was doing he opened the door and was gone."

The startling incident unfolded on a jet flight from Dublin, Ireland, that was minutes from landing in Sydney, Australia. Other passengers testified that Burkeman had been a problem the entire flight.

"He was grabbing at all the women who walked up and down the aisle," one man said. "Then he started grumbling about wanting to trade seats with someone. That's when he started picking on that one fellow, telling him to get up so he could sit in his seat. Then he asked him to step outside."

Edgar Burkeman

Before anyone realized what was happening, Burkeman had the door open and had taken that big step into the wild blue yonder. The door closed automatically on its own moments later but opening it caused the plane's oxygen masks to drop, creating a panic among the passengers.

The plane was over water at the time of the incident and Burkeman's body has not been found.

There may be some bitter from the episode. Airline officials are investigating how Burkeman was able to open the door so easily.

"It's a good thing the plane was so low in preparation for landing, or more people may have been sucked out the open door," one airline official said.

Burkeman is survived by his wife, Janelle, who was not on the flight with him.

Time capsules selling like hotcakes for the millennium!

The approach of the new millennium is boosting sales of time capsules!

Economists say there's an unprecedented interest in preserving the everyday things of daily life in large airtight containers so that future generations will know what our world was like in the late 20th century.

And more and more people are buying the torpedo-shaped storage vaults.

They're packing them with toys like Barney the dinosaur.

One company that sells the capsules is Future Packaging & Preservation. Janet Reinhold, the company's director, says her business has doubled in each of the past three years. She expects to

LOVE-STRUCK RHINO TRIES TO HAVE SEX WITH VOLVO — WHILE TERRIFIED FAMILY TREMBLES INSIDE!

TRAPPED LIKE RATS: The Theils tapped for their lives as the two-ton rhino tried to have his way with their car

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Terrified tourists Stan and Raylene Theil thought they'd breathed their last when they stopped their car in a wild-game park near here — and a romeo rhino named Titan tried to mate with their racy red Volvo!

The dumbstruck couple and their 7-year-old son Carl cowered in the car as two-ton Titan mistook the Volvo for a vivacious lady rhino and climbed aboard, looking for love.

"We'd stopped to watch these four rhinos feeding when suddenly one big guy broke away from the others and came right toward us, huffing and puffing and panting," still trembling Stan, 42, said later.

"I thought he was coming to kill us at first, but before I could crank up the car and get out of there, he was up on the hood doing his thing — and by then it was perfectly clear that the old boy had something besides murder on his mind.

"You didn't have to look too hard to see that the poor creature had fallen head over heels for our Volvo — and was all set to consummate the relationship right there on the spot."

But just as the starry-eyed Titan seemed ready to crush his chrome-and-steel sweetie like a bug, frantic animal keeper Keith Kendall rushed to the rescue — chasing the randy rhino away by speeding toward him in a four-wheel drive and firing a starter pistol into the air.

"Rhinos don't see too well and they're not the brightest animals in the world, that's for sure," the relieved keeper later told reporters. "That bright-red car apparently just caught his attention and BOOM! — he thought he'd found the girl of his dreams.

"I'm afraid if I hadn't

Steamy ordeal in the old safari park!

looking for hanky-panky with their hot-red hot rod.

"I've never seen an animal

inside it, for that matter."

The unsuspecting Theils were on the last leg of a two-week trip through Africa when the hot-blooded beast got a lust-

that crazy or that unstoppable, and when he hopped up on our hood like that, I thought we were dead for sure," said rattled Raylene, 34, a Sydney, Australia schoolteacher.

"I don't know how long we were trapped in there. It might've been only four or five minutes, but it seemed like a lifetime — and we were screaming our heads off, we were so scared.

"But somehow we made it out alive, and I'm very grateful for that. I'm also very grateful I'm not a lady rhinoceros, I can tell you that."

5,000 men buy wives at bridal fair!

NEW DELHI, India — About 25,000 men went to a fair to buy a wife — and 5,000 of them closed the deal.

Groups of men negotiated with male guardians of

Negotiations were limited to such points as what the men earn and what the bride-to-be looks like. No women were present.

If the bride and groom were not related by blood

Guess what WE found in Bill

PSYCHIC HOTLINE membership card was found in trash signed by Hillary Clinton.

Weekly World News reporters go 'dumpster diving' at the White House!

By CONSTANCE CRANE / Weekly World News

President Bill and First Lady Hillary Clinton are the most powerful man and woman on Earth but they still pull their pants on one leg at a time like everyday folks — and the items *Weekly World News* reporters gleaned from their trash during an unprecedented 12-month investigation prove it!

These are among the items found over the past year:

- **Beanie Weenies — 173 empty peel-top beat 'n' eat cans were in President Clinton's Oval Office and Air Force One trash alone!**
- A whopping 123 pairs of "ultra queen" panty hose. Tellingly, each and every pair had failed what industry experts call "the stretch test" in those "hypercritical thigh and buttocks zones."
- A partially gift-wrapped box of 15 exploding cigars (out of 20) that featured poorly drawn but recognizable likenesses of Monica Lewinsky on their wrappers!
- A Band of Steel videotape, its plastic housing cracked and punctured as if someone had stomped it repeatedly with a high-heeled shoe.
- Empty tubes and bottles of Preparation H, Olmaro breath freshener and at least three different herbal formulas that are widely used to improve memory, boost male "vitality" and wipe out symptoms of menopause or PMS.
- A Psychic Hotline membership card signed by Mrs. Clinton.
- Dozens of wrappers from Taco Bell burritos.
- A mind-boggling 322 empty cans of Chef Boyardee spaghetti and meatballs.
- More than 700 empty TV dinner trays and packages — most of them containing the remains of fried chicken dinners.
- Dozens of empty cereal boxes and frozen pizza containers.

EXERCISE videotape that had apparently

PSYCHOLOGIST Patricia Moore analyzed President Clinton's garbage and likened it to trash found in a trailer park dumpster.

- A congratulatory letter and presidential [illegible] Clearinghouse announcing Bill "Clinton's" potential sweepstakes victory. Oddly enough, the bogus check was endorsed.
- Five unopened letters from Clinton's brother, Roger: a cancer patient in Utah; a Girl Scout troop in upstate New York; a homeless family in West Virginia; and Vice President Al Gore.
- Two unopened containers of imported "HONEMEL" "herb" oil.
- Scrap paper marked with a series of numbers that, when pieced together, either by coincidence or design, give you Miss Lewinsky's current telephone number.
- A partially shredded but shockingly candid note

and Hillary's garbage cans!

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S trash contained some very non-presidential items.

THOUSANDS of surprising items were found in the White House trash during a recent 12-month investigation by Weekly World News!

PRESIDENTIAL family starts off their day the normal way — with breakfast cereal.

serving that "somebody beat (Secretary of State Madeleine Albright) with an ugly stick."

On the same paper, big-bottomed Fleetwood Mac songbird Stevie Nicks — who performed with the band at Clinton's first inaugural Ball — is described as "a hoke from the neck up."

that President Clinton is not Chelsea Clinton's biological father.

New York City psychologist Patricia Moore analyzed the trash that *NEWS* reporters

pinched while scouring singly or together to landfills of locations worldwide over the past 12 months.

She concluded, "The presidential trash contains an absolutely bizarre mix of items that proves no matter how powerful we get, no

matter we appear to be, we all have the same hopes and dreams, the same problems, weaknesses and concerns.

"If you told me you'd found all these items in a dumpster at a trailer park, I wouldn't have batted an eye-

Man gets 9 years in prison for attempted murder — of a tree!

SIENA, Italy — A member of a devil cult was sentenced to nine years in prison and fined $1,000 — for poisoning a tree.

Carlo Saltaggio, 43, was convicted of breaking into a public park and using herbicide to kill the 35-year-old tree.

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AMAZING NEW HOPE FOR PEOPLE WHO'VE VANISHED IN THE DEVIL'S TRIANGLE

By MIKE FOSTER

MIAMI, Fla. — An amazing discovery by a team of scientists throws new light on the Devil's Triangle mystery — and offers hope to families whose loved ones have vanished there over the years.

Using high-tech sensory apparatus, experts have discovered what the Triangle is: a large, clearly defined magnetic ring, which fluctuates dramatically and under certain conditions can open up as a kind of "trap door" that allows matter to plummet into subspace.

What's more, the scientists have for the first time picked up the faint radioactive patterns of human beings, aircraft and ocean vessels that have fallen through to the other side!

Dr. Lester Couvrer

'We've solved the mystery of the so-called Devil's Triangle,' says Miami physicist

...purpose, solved the mystery of the so-called Devil's Triangle," declared Dr. Lester Couvrer, a Miami physicist who has been leading the four-year project.

"Those missing ships, planes and individuals are right there in subspace — just slightly out of phase with our own normal space-time continuum."

And the good news is, many of those people are clearly still alive!"

As TV monitors locked in on eerie sounds and lights caught in radioactivity emanating from television-like screens up only to small moving blips, while ships and planes are much larger and better defined, the experts say:

"It's remarkable — we can clearly see people moving around on what appears to be some kind of large island-like mass," said a technician involved in the project.

He estimated at least 215 persons lie who on the screen, apparently be...ging to three separate groups.

The Devil's Triangle, which has be...lured Pilots and Bermuda ha...s a source of mystery and dread during ...

Where it's located is now fully known through the ...ngle — but he received p... the leg that he and his men saw a strange flash light up the sky and his compass be... gan spinning out of control.

Since then, he's learned other ships and airplanes have vanished mysteriously in the Devil's Triangle. In other cases, ghost ships have sailed calmly out of the storm zone but with their entire crews missing.

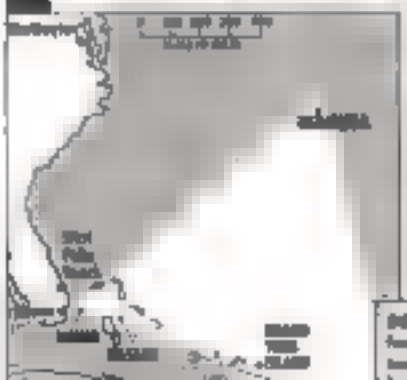
The most famous case involved a Navy flight of five Avenger torpedo bombers that took off from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on a training mission and vanished without a trace in the Triangle. Another plane was sent in to look for the missing aircraft and it too disappeared with all hands.

Using sophisticated new tools, Dr. Couvrer's team was able to actually measure massive energy in the area and mapped out what appears to be a doughnut-shaped band of disturbance about 50 miles in diameter.

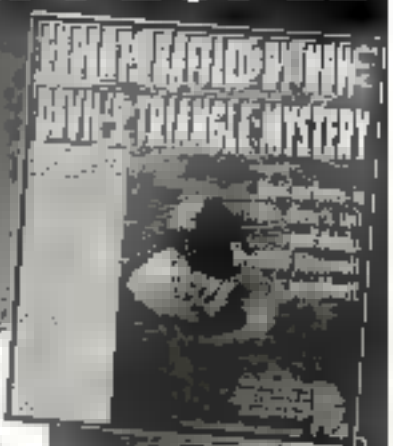
The experts believe that the strange ring results from naturally occurring phenomenons in the Earth's magnetic field.

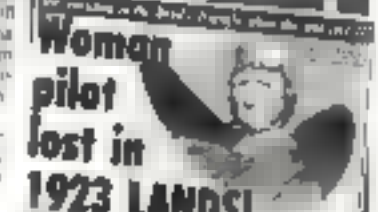
"We have observed that when there are severe atmospheric disturbances near the rim, such as electrical storms, it becomes very unstable, warping gravity and space," said Dr. Couvrer.

"We believe that at those times the ring opens a hole to normal space and vast matter dropped into subspace. Anything close to the ring, such as a boat, will be pulled in."



DEVIL'S TRIANGLE extends northeast from Miami, Fla., past Bermuda and southeast toward Puerto Rico. It is...





THOUSANDS of missing persons families flooded Washington, D.C., following stories on the Devil's Triangle. Many wonder if the disappearances have finally been solved.

WORLD NEWS August 30

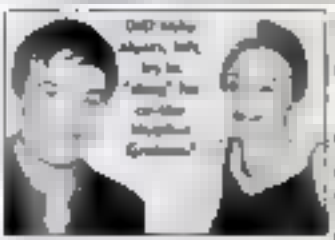
CHRISTIE

HOLLYWOOD'S ANSWER GIRL

Do you have a question about what celebrities you've been dying to ask? Drop a line to Christie . . . Hollywood's Answer Girl and she'll dig up the inside scoop. Write to: Weekly World News, 600 East Coast Ave., Lantana, Fla. 33464-0002

Q That actress Heather Graham, who plays sexy secret agent Felicity Shagwell in the Austin Powers sequel *The Spy Who Shagged Me*, sure does fill out a miniskirt nicely. But was Mike Myers slum up anything romantically with her during the film shoot?

— Clarence R., Lanett, Ala.



DID Mike share, but try to "sleep" her on the Mystery Machine?

A Nope. Married Mike is nothing like the sleazy genius he portrays and nevertheless a pla for the pretty co star.

"Mike's the most flirtatious guy I've ever worked with," says Heather, who last appeared on a roller skate wearing nothing but strategic placement of Playtex Nights. "He's so impressed devoted to his wife. It's so romantic."

Sigh! Alas, Austin really is groovy, baby.

★ ★ ★

Q One of the most fascinating figures in the OJ Simpson saga was Nicole Brown's best friend of the football star's murdered ex-wife Nicole. Is she still bitterly angry at O.J., or has she forgiven him?

— Lorri L., Corpus Christi, Texas

WRIGHTY TALES: Fave French

A Faye — who was first on the park to cash in on the murder by partaying her friendship with Nicole into a best selling book containing details leaked by the best of her pal. And she still continues to denounce news of O.J. — as rarely a day goes by that she doesn't get a call from someone who wants to know what I think about something he's done. It was like the most unique magazine. It was like, OK, good at least he got up weight.

★ ★ ★

Q I really like Sarah Jessica Parker and Kim Cattrall in that recent Hbo comedy, Sex and the City. But I was wondering, do these actresses talk as openly about sex in real life as their dirty-mouthed characters on the show?

— Shannon R., Whitesville, Ga.

EXPLICIT about bedroom antics: Kim Cattrall

A Kim, who plays promiscuous publicist Samantha, admits she and her costars are just as explicit when chatting about their bedroom exploits as the women on the raunchy TV series.

"We have no shame," she says. "I get down with my girlfriends and we tell it like it is.

"It's not talking dirty — it's talking truth."

★ ★ ★

Q Is it true that acclaimed actor Anthony Hopkins hates people just like his best known character Hannibal the Cannibal from *Silence of the Lambs*, and has even considered turning to cannibalism in real life?

— Reggie V., Baton Rouge, La.

DOESN'T want to have friends: Anthony Hopkins

A The Academy Award-winning actor has exhibited no interest in snacking on his fellow stars, but he is as much a loner as the sadistic killer he portrayed in the movies.

"I don't have any friends, I hope [illegible]

Q I couldn't help noticing that in the Clint Eastwood suspense thriller *True Crime*, actor-comedian Denis Leary, who co-stars, was without his trademark cigarettes. Did the chain smoking comic light up in between takes?

— Ralph R., Altoona, Pa.

A Nope. Leary swears he quitting cold turkey while onstage, completely snuffed out the habit to play Clint's boss, a chain smoking tabloid editor in the 1999 Oscar Dramedy. Unfortunately, doesn't appear to be the end up the case to play a seedy reporter — and the constant smell of cigarettes made it even harder for Leary to resist lighting up. It was pretty hard working with a guy who was chain smoking Camel [illegible]," says the filmmaker. Leary has managed to keep the nicotine monkey off his back since shooting the film.

★ ★ ★

Q I loved the Godfather movies, especially the first one and Part II. I admit, Part III kind of sucked. Is there ever going to be a Part IV?

— Alan T., Princeton, N.J.

A You bet your pinstripe underwear! Critics felt that director Francis Ford Coppola went to the well once too often with the Mafia family saga and they panned the 1990 flick. Godfather IV — but he's planning up to do a fourth installment anyway. And he's adding some Irish blood to the series. Baby boy Titanic heartthrob Leonardo DiCaprio has signed on to star as a dashing gay mobster in the upcoming "family" flick. The pretty boy actor will most likely play a

★QUIZ★ MOVIE BRAIN TEASER ★QUIZ★

Can you identify the movie this scene is from? The first correct entry we receive wins TWO Weekly World News T-Shirts!

HINT: A genie, let's get's a new master. Scrooge McDuck. Look for the answer here next week. Last week's quiz answer: The Incredible Mummy.

Mail entries to: Brain Teaser, Weekly World News, 600 East Coast Ave., Lantana, Fla. 33464-0002.

NAME: _____

YOUR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN TERRORIZED BY A CROSS-DRESSING SERIAL RAPIST!

SHARON | Manhunt for serial rapist continues

By MICHAEL FORSYTH / Weekly World News

TAMPA, Fla. — This once-idyllic resort town is being held in the grip of terror by a cross-dressing madman who slips into ladies' underwear and rapes innocent girls!

Cops have launched a desperate [redacted] for [redacted], who has raped, [redacted] and/or [redacted] more than two dozen victims in the Tampa [redacted] since last November.

"In my 32 years of police work I've never seen a crime like this," police spokesman Sgt. Bill Russell told the local Tampa Tribune.

In the most recent attack, in mid-June, the twisted maniac abducted a young ballerina, sexually assaulted her and released her.

He was wearing a woman's bikini at the time of the horrific attack, cops say.

The panty wearing pervert's MO is to stalk his victims as a rest pickup. Then leap out and pounce them.

Sometimes the women manage to fight him off, or he's chased off by witnesses.

But other victims have been kidnapped and subjected to unspeakable, degrading acts.

Police say the cross dressing creep has attempted to grab women on 14 occasions, has successfully raped three and has been spotted stalking victims another 31 times.

In one attack, the serial rapist grabbed a victim's breast and crotch, but was forced to flee when onlookers approached.

POLICE sound the alarm at the cross-dressing serial rapist.

In another case, he grabbed the victim's waist and tried to force her into his truck. Fortunately the plucky victim screamed and struggled and the evil victim released her.

But another woman wasn't so lucky. She was abducted at a city bus stop and brutally violated.

Police describe the attacker as in his [redacted], 6 feet tall, with short, curly hair.

They have released a sketch based on eyewitness descriptions in the cases and have set up an information hotline.

Tampa cops are asking for the public's help in bringing the cross-dressing sex fiend to justice before he strikes again.

All Weekly World News readers who live in or near Florida are urged to look carefully at the sketch on this page and ask yourself: "Does this look like my neighbor, my co-worker, my relative or my friend?"

SHE'S ON THE MONEY

Gorgeous, green-eyed Nicole Herrera, 24, is a former Belgian model who portrayed a $15,000 stock market investment into a $10 million fortune in less than three years. The beautiful bachelor girl says she wants to find herself a loving man and retire to her $1 million villa on the French Riviera.

Myths rebUFFed!

What most folks DON'T KNOW about hemorrhoids

More than 14 million Americans are troubled by hemorrhoids and they spend $185-million-plus on ointments and suppositories annually — yet many have misconceptions about this ailment.

Here are some widely believed myths about this common malady – followed by the facts.

MYTH: A person's job has little to do with his chance of getting hemorrhoids.

FACT: Since a hemorrhoid is a varicose vein, anything that causes a person more prone to get varicose veins. Mechanics, letter carriers, surgeons and even pilots are more likely to get hemorrhoids because their jobs make it difficult to obey natural urges.

People with desk jobs are also at risk because lack of exercise makes their muscles flabby and unable to handle the stress.

People who stand for long periods — hackers, sales clerks, police — even fashion models — also develop hemorrhoids because of the constant pressure of blood in the veins.

FACT: Hard-driving, ambitious and "uptight" people are more inclined to develop hemorrhoids than relaxed people.

MYTH: There's no link between diet and hemorrhoids.

FACT: Poor diet is a leading cause. Diets high in refined carbohydrates and low in fiber contribute to constipation which leads to hemorrhoids.

Hot spicy foods, alcoholic beverages and some laxatives irritate the bowel, which can also cause hemorrhoids.

MYTH: Hemorrhoids come with old age.

FACT: Not true — or else every oldster would have hemorrhoids.

MYTH: Hemorrhoids are inherited.

FACT: although several

A GIFT FROM THE ANGELS... ANGEL OILS

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A healing and cleansing away of negativity spray.

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Oil of Healing (A207) $9.50
A powerful essential oil blend used for healing the body, mind and spirit.

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A powerful essential oil blend that will attract the vibration of [redacted]

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Most horrifying cases on record of . . .

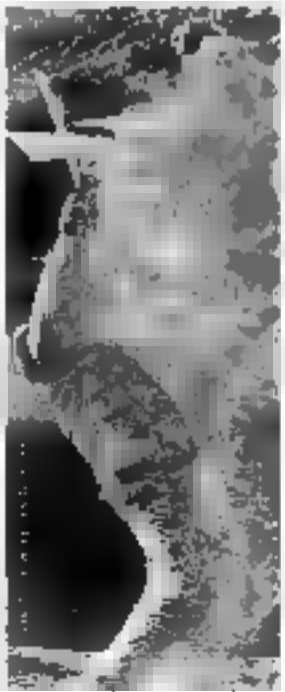
SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION

Mysterious fiery phenomenon causes victims to burst into flames!

By MICHAEL FORSYTH · Weekly World News

Paranormal investigators call it Spontaneous Human Combustion — a mysterious phenomenon in which ordinary people inexplicably burst into flames and burn to a crisp. Hundreds of such cases have been reported over the centuries.

Below, compiled by researcher Geoff Tibballs, are a handful of the most uncanny cases ever:



At Severnbridge, Canada, in 1966, Mary Kirby walked into the bedroom of her 4 year-old daughter Amy and was horrified to find the child ablaze in her bed. There was no sign that the bed had been paying with matches, nor was any other possible cause of the fatal fire apparent.

At the distraught mum was leaving to tell her estranged husband the terrible news, a messenger arrived to inform her that her other daughter Alice, 3, had also been found on fire in her bed at the father's house. The two fires that killed the siblings had broken out at precisely the same time.

In the summer of 1951, gentle London widow Elphenia Johnson was sipping tea and sitting in a chair beside her window when suddenly she erupted into flames.

When the 66-year-old woman's body was discovered, most of it had burned down to a pile of scorched bones and the feet — yet incredibly some of the clothes she was wearing were unscathed!

On July 2, 1951, Mary Reaser, 67, was reduced to a small pile of smoking ashes by a blaze of [illegible] that left almost nothing other than her body. Even a pile of newspapers found next to her remains wasn't singed. Experts were never able to determine the cause of the fire and a top University of Pennsylvania professor admitted he was totally baffled by the case.

On March 1, 1963, Reginald Reed of Greenville, S.C., was found burned to a blackened crisp at the driver's seat of his car as if he had been the victim of a fiery wreck. But there was no sign of fire damage to the vehicle and the gas tank hadn't exploded — even though it was half full.

In the late 1980s, 19-year-old honeymooner Mansfield Andrews was dancing with his boyfriend Billy Clifford at a London dance hall when suddenly she burst into flame. The fire raged from her back and chest, enveloping her head and igniting her hair until she went up like a human candle.

Shocked eyewitness Clifford later told investigators, "I know it sounds incredible, but it appeared to me that the flames burst outwards, as if they originated within her body."

On October 9, 1980, Jeanna Worchester, riding in a car in Jacksonville, Fla., suddenly became a human torch. A subsequent examination of the car revealed virtually no fire damage — and no apparent cause. There was no gas leak, Jeanna wasn't smoking and the windows were rolled up, so nobody could have thrown anything into the car. Firemen said they'd "never seen anything like it."

BURNED TO A CRISP! Euphenia Johnson was sipping a cup of tea when she burst into flames.

Tourists spend night in motel with a rotting corpse!

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — A pair of German tourists spending a night at a motel got a grisly surprise when they found out they'd been sleeping right over a rotting corpse!

After the couple took the room and registered it to management, they went to bed.

When maids came in the next morning, they searched for the source of the smell. They lifted up the mattress and upstairs — and were horrified to find a man's dead body in the box frame.

No one knows the identity of the man or how long his body had been there.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS, June

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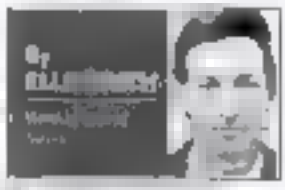
NAME
ADDRESS

How to stay friends with a couple after they're divorced!

When your friends are getting a divorce, you can keep your friendship solid with both of them — even after the divorce — by simply following the advice of experts.



That's right! Don't choose sides, be supportive toward both of your friends, advises Dr. Ellen Kaval, a well-known psychiatrist.

"If you really care for both and you care that your friendship as a unit has a chance of surviving itself, taking sides doesn't help and it may actually interfere," he said.

Don't play one divorcing spouse against each other. For example if [illegible] tells you and wants to talk about the affair you advised him not to both sides — that you should refuse to join in the dispute advises top marriage counselor Dr. John [illegible].

Don't pretend the divorce is not happening. "Most divorcing friendships are unrealistic, or like a thing where all like they're being colored by" Dr. Hudson pointed out.

Don't tell each party everything you know about the other. Revealing secrets is also unwise to stretch or rigid for devastating, Dr. Kaval warns. Dr. H[illegible] things

Don't talk about your divorcing friends behind their backs. "Gossiping is not beneficial," Dr. Kaval said. "A good friend is patient."

Continue to see both your friends. "If you're friends with both parties, make it clear that their divorce is a private matter and it is not related to your feelings about them. Tell them you like them as they are and you still like them."

Treat children of the divorcing couple in a normal manner. "Children are human beings, too," Dr. Hudson said.

Dr. Kaval added, "One of the greatest things you can do for the kids is to be like another adult to whom he [illegible]."

IT'S TRUE! Coffee can help you sober up!

This popular notion that a few cups of coffee can help sober you up after a few drinks is true, according to a study sponsored by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

"If you have had three or four drinks and you are not sure about driving, three or four cups of coffee will help your driving performance," disclosed psychologist Dr. Herbert Moskowitz.

To demonstrate the effects of caffeine on alcohol, 30 volunteers were given varying amounts of caffeine after consuming alcoholic beverages.

Then they were given a battery of tests relating to their driving skills.

Although the caffeine did help to offset the effect of the alcohol, Dr. Moskowitz warned that the caffeine is no help at low levels of drinking.

"It won't work. But if you take a moderate amount of alcohol and a moderate amount of caffeine it will help you out."

Dr. Thomas Ferrara, another psychologist, disagreed.

"The results of this study should not be taken to be."

"The general feeling and the general experience is that

MY AMERICA

STICK MEAT THERMOMETERS IN ELECTRIC CHAIR SCUM — TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE DONE!

I'm madder than an executioner with a dull ax over all this blubbering about the guy who got a nosebleed while being fried to a crisp in Florida's electric chair.

Well, bum hue!

Serena Allen Lee "Tiny" Davis, a 341 lb tub of lard, blew a nose gasket when the 2,300-volt wallop was pulled sending him on a sizzling bound to Hell.

Hey, maybe they really needed 3,000 volts to burst this guy into roast pork. But anybody can make a mistake, for crying out loud.

Hell, on the old wife Thelma Jean may've cooked a 14 lb turkey at 20 degrees for 20 minutes and it turned out like buffalo chips.

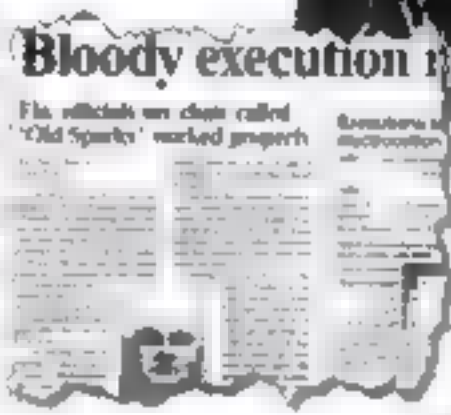
Maybe we should stick a cooking thermometer in these guys' butts to see when they're done.

But just take a listen to the liberal bullcrap.

"To say this is a considered act is on a par with a roller coaster ride in an ultraviolet, a mockery of human suffering," sniffed Jean Jordan of Amnesty International, a feminist group that hates the death penalty.

So, relatives, surely, should be among the executioners, and I hope what happened to Florida to weld a speedy end to the electric chair," whined Steve Hawkins of the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

After readers hear bleeding heart crap like this I'm always need another shot of Old Crow just to



Bloody execution r

Fla. officials say chair called 'Old Sparky' worked properly

FLORIDA's version of the—nicknamed "Old Sparky," had executed murderer Allen Lee Davis bleeding like a stuck pig ... and Ed says that's just fine!

puke. If on the way to his funeral the guy had been shot by a firing squad I'd have no problem. But fry him in the electric chair and I'm ready to puke.

Oh, by the way, are the bleeding-crap-wristed anti-death penalty yelps a Dick can did was beat pregnant Agnes Mosier and her two daughters to death in Jacksonville, Fla. back in 1987. And he made her husband and dad watch and he ran.

Well, I wouldn't have needed that much to be electric chair to take to guilt.

I'd have used that great old Chinese method of execution where they make the victim literally eat himself to death.

Every day they would cut a little piece of meat off the guy, but throw up and let him eat his own enough of his own flesh to keep him alive as long as possible.

Death soon, the guy would be down to skin and bones so he could speak, and would die screaming and hungry. Hell, then I'd even save him a little piece of his ear or something for the last meal.

One guy lived more than seven months on this diet.

At 350 pounds, old "Tiny" Davis would've kept with us a long, long time. We could have had fun watching him pig out for the next decade ... and Florida would've saved on their electric bill to boot!

Ed Anger

ED ANGER'S DEATH PENALTY POLL

☐ YES: I agree with Ed Anger that we should have made "Tiny" Davis eat himself to death instead of giving him the easy way out in the electric chair!

☐ NO: No human being should be put to death no matter how much they rape or murder. Everybody has a bad day now and then and they deserve a second chance.

Send your responses to Ed Anger's Death Penalty Poll, c/o Weekly World News, 600 East Coast Ave., Lantana, Fla. 33464-3062.

WITHOUT MAEVA, I WAS GOING TO PASS BY HAPPINESS!

I [redacted] for my appointment.

"HURRY UP! MAEVA TOLD ME,

"THIS IS THE MAN OF YOUR LIFE!"

[redacted] IT WAS TRUE!

I MARRIED HIM, AND, I ADD, MAEVA ALSO KNOWS THIS WOMAN'S PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS: SHE'S BEEN IN WONDERFUL FINANCIAL STANDING SINCE THEN!

YES, THE MAN [redacted]

LIFE [redacted] EXISTS

YES, THE WOMAN OF YOUR DREAMS IS JUST WAITING TO MEET YOU! MAEVA TELLS YOU, "MEETING THAT PERSON WHO WILL FILL YOU WITH HAPPINESS IS MORE SIMPLE THAN YOU COULD IMAGINE!"

MAEVA

Pure Psychic and Parapsychologist

"HURRY UP! MAEVA TOLD ME...

and we are crazily in love. We continually have good luck. And never worry about our finances. We're living a dream.

It was Helena, my childhood friend, who brought me to see MAEVA. "You can't be skeptical," my friend told me. "I wouldn't be crazy enough to go to someone for 6 months if their predictions were false!" I'm glad I have this friend in MAEVA. Her returning her husband in the family and that she consulted her for her every marriage investments! We had hardly sat down when MAEVA told me something astonishing. "I must tell you that the young man who you were introduced to most is beginning to get impatient. He's not going to wait for you. But you can still catch him if you hurry. This is important for you. He's going to be the man of your life!"

HE REALLY WAS THE MAN OF MY LIFE!

I don't know why, but at that very moment I trusted the clairvoyant even though it was completely ridiculous. I left and I ran, arriving at the Jena Bridge where I was supposed to meet her. He was there! Taking strength from MAEVA's prediction I crossed the bridge. What a surprise! My man was bringing over, tying his shoe laces. He wasn't going to wait

ASTONISHING MAEVA

We stopped counting her predictions long ago!

Spontaneous predictions which benefit the person she's thinking about. That's you if you write to her! Such was the case live on Antenne 2 (the second national television network in France) during the World Cup in Soccer. MAEVA correctly predicted victory by the French team over Brazil right in front of one amazed Gerard Holtz!

This should give you an idea of the extent of the power that she can utilize for the happiness of all. You've also seen her on Canal+ and lately on TF1 on the show "How much does it cost?"

DIRECT CLAIRVOYANCE

- It was at Polytechnic that MAEVA received her first initiation.
- In Paris she was also initiated and assisted her in the development of her different psychic art.
- Returning to France, she spent two years perfecting her psychological and psychic powers.
- She hosts shows on various radio stations.
- She created the first conference on Parapsychology.

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YES, dear MAEVA, your offer is not to be missed. Also I am also filled with the desire to see me free the obsession that ruined a and help me find joy in living again. Here's my problem (only one):

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Please enclose necessary and send me your answer by the next mail along with my PROTECTIVE PENDANT so that I feel united and initiated.
For answering 3 to 7 days are needed - 11 to yearly treatment. And to 14 days for answer by ☐ Check ☐ Money Order

Mark box the things you want to know to talk for

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HOW YOU CAN BE LIFTED UP TO HEAVEN DURING THE RAPTURE!

You can be one of the lucky people taken up in the Rapture — and avoid the horrors of the Apocalypse — by following the tips of a top Bible expert!

"There's no way to ensure that you will be one of the chosen few taken up in the Rapture – only Jesus can decide that. But you can greatly increase your chances of being saved by following a few commonsense steps," declares Montgomery. The Bible scholar Dr. Agnes Whitehead, author of the upcoming book "Raptures by Great Whitehead, author of the upcoming book "Raptures by Great Minds in the Heaven" for The Rapture."

The Bible says that near the end of time shortly before the world is racked by a final wave of catastrophic war, famine, disease and natural disasters, Jesus will select 144,000 prayer crusaders up to Heaven ... while they are still alive. Theologians call this the Rapture.

Here, based on Scripture, are eight things the expert says you can do to win the Rapture lottery.

CHOOSE A VIRGIN — The Good Book says of the lucky 144,000: "These are they which were not defiled with women for they are virgins." Rev 14:4.

If you're already married, practice chaste behavior at all times. Stay absolutely faithful to your mate in thought, word and deed.

NEVER LIE — Do not even stretch the truth or make any attempt to deceive others. The Bible says of the chosen ones: "In their mouth was found no guile." Rev 14:5.

REPENT YOUR SINS — You don't have to have led a blameless life to be picked for the Rapture — but it is an absolute requirement that you have sought forgiveness from the Lord.

KEEP THE LORD'S COMMANDMENTS — The more sin to avoid are the cardinal ones. If you periodically break one of the 10 Commandments, expect to pay the Apocalypse here on Earth.

ACCEPT JESUS AS YOUR LORD AND MASTER — An acceptance of Jesus Christ as the Son of God is absolutely essential.

SPEND PLENTY OF TIME CONCENTRATING — You want to be outside when the Rapture begins and the prayerful team begins to pull you physically up toward Heaven. Otherwise you could hit a certain spot and end up stuck down here with the other poor unfortunates when all Hell breaks loose.

ANSWER GOD'S CALL — When the Rapture takes place, be sure to joyfully answer God's call.

The Scriptures state that when the time comes, the faithful on earth "Shall arise to our call." They will be pulling to do so could lose your seat on the Heavenly Rapid Express.

Says Dr. Whitehead: "If you heed the voice of the Lord and be sure to answer promptly — and you will experience that wondrous ride up to Heaven."

ONLY 144,000 people will be brought up into Paradise when the world ends!

BIBLE scholar Dr. Agnes Whitehead.

By MIKE FOSTER
World News

RIGHT BEFORE the world comes to a cataclysmic end, a few select people will be plucked up to Heaven in the Rapture, a top Bible expert says.

How to make your kid take yucky medicine

You can get your child to take yucky-tasting medicine by using these tips from the experts:

● If the medicine is liquid, tip the spoon as far back into the little guy's mouth as possible. That way you bypass most taste buds, which are in the front of the mouth.

● Have a pleasant tasting drink on hand. The child can use it to "wash down" the bad-tasting stuff.

● Don't be afraid to use a little sugar. Older the tyke a little reward for taking the medicine.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS August 10,

Most French wine experts buy their [illegible] at supermarkets

By JOE BERGER / [illegible]

PARIS — In America, stock-up yuppies and gullible gourmets nonetheless shell out thousands of dollars for a single bottle of highfalutin French wine. But France's most famous wine connoisseurs buy their Bordeaux, Burgundy and Beaujolais at the supermarket — and seldom pay more than a buck or two a bottle.

"This whole so-called 'premium wine' business is one of the biggest hoaxes ever perpetrated on the public — because the truth is, there isn't a wine in the world worth more than $10 a bottle," said famed French food critic Claude-Alain Gayne.

"It's all a scam, and the Americans, who have more money than brains, fall for it every time. The idiots all seem to think that the more a wine costs, the better it's taste — which is nonsense, of course.

"The difference between a $10 bottle of wine and a $1,000 bottle of wine is almost nonexistent — except that the $10 wine is often better."

So the frugal French, the most knowledgeable wine imbibers in the world, avoid these high-priced poisons like the plague — and go for the cheapo vino at the corner market.

A recent national survey found that 68 percent of Frenchmen buy their wine at supermarkets — and climb out an average of just 10 francs, or about $2 to, per bottle.

"We don't spend much on wine because we've come to realize that except for the most appeal expensive wines and cheap wines are all the same," said millionaire businessman Bernard de Maynier, 40.

"And all this in-do about vintage is nuts, because wines simply don't vary that much from year to year. A 1983 Mouton du Thouron is identical to a 1986 Mouton du Thouron except for the label on the bottle — and the price tag, of course."

The fat-cat financier and former winery boss said French visitors spend millions buying their wine in markets in America, Australia and other third-world parts of the planet will look over a fortune for run-of the-mill stuff.

"Americans should keep in mind that this stuff is nothing but fermented grape juice," deMaynier said. "You know, this isn't liquid gold we're talking about here."

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The most amazing animal story of the year

HERO ALLIGATOR SAVES KIDS FROM KILLER DOG!

SARASOTA, Fla. — Two children were saved from death at the jaws of a vicious pit bull — when a heroic alligator charged the killer dog and dragged him roaring for his life!

The incident occurred in ankle-deep water. Judy Lankford and her 5-year-old twins Jerry and Mary were spending a quiet day on the Myakka River state park east of this Gulf Coast city.

"I think God the that gator," says Judy, 34 of the artist long regrets.

"That dog would have torn them to shreds if he hadn't risked his life to save them.

"It all started about 10 in the morning. We took a walk along the river and we noticed an alligator swimming along near the banks. He seemed to be following us. When we stopped, he stopped with us. When we stopped to rest, he stopped.

"I wasn't too worried because alligators that size hardly ever come out of the water and attack people. But I kept close to the kids just the same.

"He followed us for about an hour and Jerry and Mary started talking to him. I know it sounds crazy, but I got the strangest feeling he was understanding them. I felt like he was lonely like he was trying to make friends with us. We were all having fun together."

But the family's enjoyable day took a sudden, vicious turn when they came around a bend and found themselves face-to-face with a roaring 70-pound pit bull. The attack-trained animal had been released to roam free all his handlers because the unidentified owner thought there were no people in the immediate area.

The hungry for Jerry and sank his teeth into his arm. "I don't with before I even had a chance to think," Judy says. "I grabbed him and tried to pull him off but he was too strong.

"Then he let go of Jerry and grabbed Mary's shoulder. We were all screaming."

Judy says she was powerless to stop the dog and was so afraid that he would have killed both her children and possibly her too.

"Suddenly there was a splashing and the gator came rushing out of the water. He grabbed that horrible dog's hind leg in his jaws, shook him hard and then let him go. The dog jumped away, yelping."

Judy grabbed up the kids and ran to call paramedics.

The children were treated and released at a nearby medical facility. Doctors say the worst bites were on their stomachs and chests. But they will heal.

"I hate to think of what would have happened if the attack had continued," said one attending physician.

The pit bull's owner has been ordered to pay a stiff fine and to keep the dog penned or leashed at all times.

The alligator, whom the kids have named "Silver" for his black teeth to his Gator arms, the popular harmless tourist attraction that features alligator shows.

"He has plenty to eat, plenty of other alligators to play with, and best of all, my Jerry and Mary can go visit him whenever they want to," Judy said.

DEADLY PIT BULL almost killed the children

LUCKY TO BE ALIVE! 5-year-old twins Jerry and Mary Lankford are all smiles now

THEIR HERO. With the help of a trainer, Judy Lankford and her children Jerry and Mary

Depressed? Don't sleep so much, says study

Most people need plenty of sleep to function properly, but too much shut-eye can sink you into the depths of depression!

A study of 1,500 depressed patients revealed that two-thirds improved enormously after one night without sleep.

Incredible edibles!

SUPERFOODS

. . . that will add YEARS to your life!

BALTIMORE, Md. — At last, medical science is telling us what our mothers told us for years: "Eat your vegetables." Top doctors are now saying broccoli, tomatoes and other fruits and veggies are superfoods that prevent cancer and other deadly diseases!

By R. NEALE LAID
Weekly World News

As the new millennium approaches, experts are advising us to eat the old-fashioned way! Take mom's age-old advice and get lots of plant-based foods in the diet.

That's right. It's not just "folk wisdom."

Dr Paul Talalay, professor of pharmacology at Johns Hopkins University Medical School, says there's an ever growing mountain of evidence to support the idea that compounds called phytochemicals, found in certain plant-based foods, protect the body against cancer and other killers.

One such phytochemical is called sulforaphane.

"Sulforaphane is in vegetables like broccoli and cauliflower," Dr Talalay said.

"It spurs cells to produce cancer-blocking enzymes (in other words, it stimulates the body's own defenses against disease). So do other phytochemicals like lycopene, carotenoids and flavonoids that occur naturally in fruits and vegetables."

Dr Talalay, whose career has spanned 40 years, goes further.

"Cancer isn't the only deadly illness that phytochemicals fight," he says.

"By helping DNA in cells repair damage from pollutants, these compounds protect the body from heart disease, mental illnesses — even some kinds of blindness," he added.

Now, from Dr. Talalay, are just some of these superfoods, the phytochemicals they contain and the wonderful things they do:

TOMATOES — contain lycopene, which protects against cancer and prostate cancer and macular degeneration — a major cause of blindness.

GARLIC and **ONIONS** — contain allyl sulfides, which fight bacterial infections.

BROCCOLI — contains sulforaphane, which fights cancer.

LEAFY VEGETABLES and **CITRUS** — contain folic acid, which helps prevent birth defects.

SOY — contains phytoestrogens, which protect against breast and prostate cancer.

NUTS, GRAINS, AVOCADOS — contain vitamin E, which helps prevent heart disease by weakening arterial plaque.

ETHERBERRIES — contain polyphenols, which inhibit cell mutations.

RAPE ROBBERY MURDER

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40 million-year-old mushroom found!

The world's oldest mushroom was recently found — and it's a whopping 40 million years old!

The discovery was made by a team of scientists from the Dominican Republic.

The mushroom and a tiny

My buddy stole my sweetheart but their baby looks like me!

RICK in South Carolina

Dear Dotti: About 10 months ago my best friend stole my girlfriend and while I was devastated at first, I decided that everything happens for the best and forgave both of them. Now I'm steaming again because they just had a baby — and it looks like me! Don't think I'm crazy, Dotti, because I know what I'm talking about. My friend has black hair and black eyes just like my ex-sweetheart and both me and the baby have blood hair and blue eyes. I'm convinced that the baby is mine and if I can prove it I want custody proven. Help me out, Dotti. What do you think I should do?" — Rick in South Carolina

Dear Rick: A simple paternity test will reveal the true father of the baby in no time flat. If your ex-sweetheart and friend refuse to cooperate, get yourself a lawyer — and take Dotti in court.

Should I shell out big bucks to take a cruise?

Dear Dotti: I've been thinking about going on one of those week-long cruises where people hang it up, eat like pigs, flirt with everybody in sight and gamble to beat the band. The problem is that it costs an arm and a leg and I'm not sure it's worth it. You're a woman of the world, Dotti. Should I spring for the trip or not? — Veronica in Florida

VERONICA in Florida

Dear Veronica: Anybody who pays good money to get rid of their paycheck is brain-damaged, but you don't have to take my word for it. Just put your TV on — one of those stations that plays reruns all day — and watch a few episodes of Love Boat!

I'm proud to be a teen, Dotti, so buzz off!

Dear Dotti: I hate you! You're always putting down teenagers just because they want to enjoy life by dancing and listening to music. I'm proud to be a teen and I'm not going to let you or anybody else tell me I'm not. Why don't you just mind your own business and leave us alone? — Angry in Arizona

Dear Angry: I'm not putting down teenagers, I'm just trying to help them. Most of the letters I get are from teens who are confused about sex, drugs, alcohol and other problems. I'm not trying to tell you how to live your life, but I do want you to think about what you're doing before you do it. Thanks for writing.

CONFIDENTIALS

Dear Wondering in Massachusetts: Anybody who watches TV knows there's a diet to overindulge.

Dear Embarrassed in Virginia: The next time you go to church in a mini-skirt, don't forget the pantyhose.

Dear Hattie: In New Mexico? Who's to say that every children, good or bad, will end up in Hell? Only God knows for sure. I have a "good book" or a "bad book."

Dear Nightwatcher in West Virginia: Just what do you like to do on a romantic evening? Maybe you should spend your weekends watching birds or anything but TV.

Dear Anglophobe in America: There's not a single Japanese student in the world who ever complained to anybody and you're no exception.

Dear Worried Mom in Delaware: Don't be stupid. Let your kid start dating anybody he wants to start dating. Besides, there's not a damn thing you can do about it.

Dear Proud Father in California: If looking like the broad side of a barn doesn't bother you, it sure as hell doesn't bother me either!

I need a job — but I'm too good to flip burgers!

Dear Dotti: I've been trying to get a job since I graduated from college and to be, I haven't had any luck. I'm a high-ly trained and qualified English major, but nobody wants to give me a job that's anywhere near as high-paying as I deserve. I thought college would guarantee me a good job, but nothing could be further from the truth. I've been to major corporations of all kinds and their personnel offices have the gall to tell me I'm not qualified to do anything. About the only job I could get is flipping hamburgers in a fast-food joint, and frankly, I'm too good for that. So what do you propose I do? — Mary Beth in Memphis

MARY BETH in Memphis

Dear Mary Beth: I'll stop on your case as long as I like. Meanwhile, get over it.

My 29-year-old boyfriend always picks his nose!

Dear Dotti: I'll be blunt. My 29-year-old boyfriend picks his nose. He doesn't care where he is or who is around. And to make matters worse, he eats his boogers like they're gourmet food. I understand that everybody has bad habits, but this is ridiculous. I don't know how I can tell him that this bothers me because I don't want to hurt his feelings. What should I do? — Deborah in Wisconsin

DEBORAH in Wisconsin

I'm a rising rock star but my band needs a name!

Dear Dotti: I've decided to become a rock star and I suspect you to think that I want you to help me name my band. I have narrowed it down to my four favorites. Do you think I should call it "Psychedelic Rat Droppings," "Wish Will Wire Whips," "Satanic Money Carnival Barbeque" or "Plastic Rat Bassoon"? — Mitch in Washington

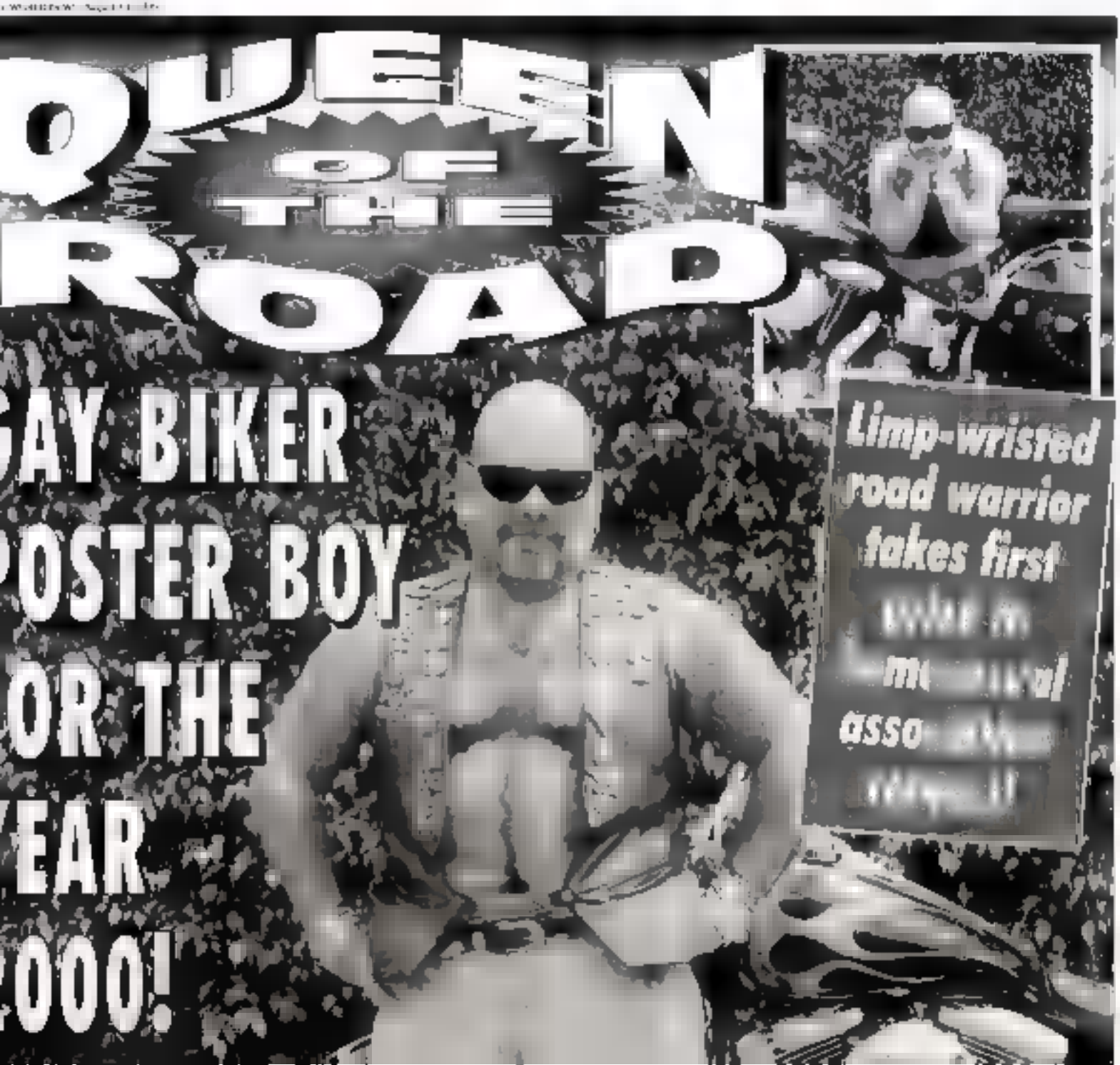
Dear Mitch: Call it "Lousy Big Rejects" — which is exactly what you are!

MITCH in Washington

WHO'S BEEN YOU OVER LATELY

DOTTI'S

Send her Anytime-Award Void a letter, and a picture if possible — and let her tell it like it is. Write to Dear Dotti, c/o Weekly World News, 600 East Coast Ave., Lantana, Fla. 33464-9989. We'll forward your letters to her. NOTE: Due to the sheer volume of mail she receives, Dotti cannot personally answer all letters. But rest assured you'll get a response in print. Remember, Dotti's decisions are FINAL!


QUEEN OF THE ROAD
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FOR THE
YEAR
2000!
Limp-wristed road warrior takes first

"I'm not afraid to show my sensitive side."
— Chris Lorini

GAY BIKER Chris Lorini loves to show off his bike and his look for the camera — and that'll come in handy for the newly chosen poster boy.

HE EVEN TAKES BUBBLE BATHS!

By JOE BERGER

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — Speed-crazy Chris Lorini loves nothing better than hurtling down the highway at 110 m.p.h. on his highballing Harley Heritage Classic, sucking up dust and bugs as 701 pounds of hot steel pulses and purrs between his legs.

But when each day's hog heavenly adventure comes to an end, our frazzled traveler doesn't hit the bars for a bumper and brew. Instead, prissy Chris highballs it home for a Waldorf salad, a wine spritzer and a nice warm bubble bath — because this limp-wristed road warrior is king of the gay bikers!

Last month, 412 randy members of the National Association of Homosexual Bikers voted the flamboyant Bakersfield hardware merchant their poster boy for the year 2000 and beyond. As before, that distinction came as nearly stoopingly delightful.

HOMOSEXUAL Biker President Perry Delegarde

"There are a lot of gay bikers out there [illegible] probably more than most people realize, and to be picked out of the others to be a biker poster and start a job that involves traveling the open road is a great honor," the sassy 5'10" dynamo explained.

"I guess they chose me because I'm a real biker, but also because I'm very well-known and quite involved in the biker world. I've been on the road when it's 70 degrees and the sun is shining, I've been caught in the middle of a rainstorm, when it's [illegible] and I've been caught [illegible] when it's 110 degrees out there.

"But at the same time, I'm not afraid to show my sensitive side, either. I never go on the road without my hairbrush, and at night I don't go carousing through seedy, smelly biker bars knocking over tables and drinking beer that tastes like it's been filtered through a horse.

"Instead, I get me a nice room with nice, fluffy pillows. I pour myself a wine cooler and fix myself a nice, healthy salad — and then I begin the fun and pink-my-pinkie part.

"And I don't mind saying, I like a bubbly bath at the end of a long day. Otherwise, you might just go totally to hell, you know.

"I guess maybe they chose me because I'm young proof you don't have to be a hunk to be a biker."

Tickled pink, Perry Delegarde of Detroit, president of the National Association of Homosexual Bikers, says he's not quite right headed of the asphalt rebel society. Chris their spokesman of the road for all the gay bikers in the United States — and one of two the United States.

"We all know him and we all love him," gushed the powder puff prez. "And besides that, he's really very handsome, don't you think?"

HOW TO TRICK ANYONE INTO DOING YOU A FAVOR

Want to get someone to do you a favor? There's how.

"Whether you need help doing a simple chore, such as moving to a new home, or learning [illegible] perform a new task, aid is available — if you know how to ask for it," said psychologist Dr. Robert J. Wicks.

Dr. Wicks and psychologist Dr. Frederick Koenig offered these sure-fire tricks for getting others to help you:

• Be sure that your request is reasonable. Ask yourself if what you want is something the other person is able to grant you.

• Be specific. "Often people ask for general help and the person they are talking feels confused as to what is actually wanted," said Dr. Wicks.

• Explain why you need help. This will provide important information to the other person and help him or [redacted] respond.

• Ask people that you know are helpful. "Ask the kindest person you know," said Dr. Koenig.

"The fact that he or she is busy shows that they are the type of person who is willing to take on responsibilities [redacted] cares about other people."

• Make the other person feel special. Compliment him or her, suggests Dr. Wicks.

"Say something like, 'I have this problem to deal with and you were the first person I thought of to ask for help because I know that you have a lot about it.'"

• Let the person know you will return the favor. Never play on another's guilt by reminding him or her of past favors. This just causes resentment and puts them off.

• Let them know that you appreciate their help and don't take them for granted.

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THE TAROT REVEALS IDENTITY OF TRUE SOULMATE BY NAME!

Tempe, Arizona—Lee Burgess was more depressed than she had ever been before when she called her tarot expert, Sandra. "Sandra knew immediately that I had been badly abused as a child and had never had any love in relationships. It was very clear to her through the cards." I was amazed that she knew this. But what she told me next changed my life forever! "Julie, your soulmate is within reach right now. He is a Leo and his name is Bob." A few short weeks later, Julie met Bob. It

Thief steals bugs worth a fortune!

TOKYO — Cops here are investigating the theft of what the Japanese call "black diamonds" — beetles so rare demand that they sell for thousands of dollars apiece!

A thief took off with 50 beetles valued at $191,000 after breaking into a store specializing in rare insects.

The Japanese have kept bee-

Who saw me steal from church offering plate?

Serena Sabak

JENNY in Indiana.

Dear Serena: I did a terrible thing and I'm afraid I might end up in big trouble. I stole money from the collection plate at church.

A couple of years ago I used to steal from the collection plate all the time. I'm pretty sure no one ever saw me do it back then but I decided to stop before I got caught. Then last Sunday I noticed a $50 bill in the plate and I just couldn't resist. Now I feel really guilty and I've made a vow to never do it again, but I worried that someone saw me do it and they will tell the minister or even the cops. Please Serena, did I get caught? — *Jenny in Indiana*

Dear Jenny: Yes, you did. But the person who saw you isn't going to tell anyone until she confronts you about it. If you agree to give the $50 back to the church, she'll agree not to tell the minister what you did. But I urge you to seek counseling for the serious problem you have about taking money. The truth is that if you felt as guilty as you say you do, you'd have already given the money back to the church.

★ ★ ★

Dear Serena: If I travel to New York City next month, will I get mugged or shot or anything like that? — Gail in Colorado

GAIL in Colorado.

Dear Gail: You will be safe on your trip. The only bad part of your trip will be when the airline misplaces your luggage on your flight home, but don't worry — you'll get it all back within 24 hours.

★ ★ ★

Dear Serena: Why have I been so depressed lately? I have a good job, a loving wife and nice wonderful children. But I have a nagging feeling of terrible depression. Can you tell me why I'm so sad all the time? — Larry in Missouri

LARRY in Missouri.

Dear Larry: Your subconscious psychic powers are telling you that there's going to be big trouble where you work. You won't be fired but unfortunately many of your co-workers, including your best friend will.

★ ★ ★

Dear Serena: When I was back in high school I played the trumpet in the band. That was more than 30 years ago and I've been thinking about pulling the old horn out again and seeing how well I can still play. There's only one problem — I can't find my trumpet anywhere. The last time I saw it was probably about 15 years ago but I can't remember where. Can you tell me where it is? — Musical in Virginia

Dear Musical: Your brother sold the trumpet shortly after you moved out of the house back in 1975. Unfortunately, he got only $23 for it.

★ ★ ★

Dear Serena: Two weeks ago I was riding with a friend and we were involved in a wreck with three other cars. No one was hurt very badly but there are going to be lawsuits flying in every direction and I'm afraid I might have to testify in court. Everything happened so fast and I kind of think my friend was at fault a little bit. The thing that complicates everything is that another friend of mine was driving one of the other cars and I don't want to say anything to court that would get him in trouble. I've decided to just tell the truth — no matter what anybody is telling me to say. Please tell me what really did happen — I'm so confused I can't remember — Honest in Nebraska

Dear Honest: All of the drivers at the wreck must share the blame. The driver of your car was across the center line. Your other friend didn't signal before he turned, another driver was speeding and the other guy was tailgating. When you testify, just tell the same story you told police right after the wreck. It was the correct account.

★ ★ ★

Dear Serena: Two years ago I was on a TV game show. I won about $300 but I should have done better. But that's not the point. When the show ran I made a videotape of it but then I didn't label the tape and I have no idea which of my hundreds of tapes my appearance is on. It would take me forever to watch all the tapes. Can you help me out? — Frank in Ohio

FRANK in Ohio.

Dear Frank: The tape is in the cabinet under your television in the bedroom. The first thing on the tape is a football game, then part of a pornographic movie and then your appearance.

★ ★ ★

PERSONAL TO . .

Heartbroken in New York: Please don't get upset at him. If you are patient and understanding, I promise everything will work out.

Fortune Teller

ORIENT

2 3 4 5 6 7

What is your secret message from the Orient this week? It's easy and fun to decipher. Here's the key to decoding your message.

If the number of letters in your first name is 8 or less, subtract that number from 7. If there are more than 8 letters in your first name, subtract the total from 13.

Now take the result and find your key letter in the word ORIENT above. Starting at the upper left corner of the box below, check each one of your key letters as it appears from left to right. The letters below each of your letters spell out a secret message for you.

O	R	I	T	E	N	E	I	R	O	T	R
a	e	i	k	b	d	l	t	t	m	s	t
I	N	O	N	T	E	E	O	I	N	R	T
'	a	u	s	s	l	s	v	s	y	w	p
E	I	O	N	T	R	O	E	T	R	N	I
e	u	e	l	c	s	i	l	l	,	w	p
R	I	E	O	T	I	N	I	O	N	E	T
t	s	s	e	o	s	h	i	h	y	s	t
O	R	I	T	E	N	E	I	R	O	T	R
e	f	d	h	t	w	s	w	o	l	s	n
E	R	O	T	I	N	R	I	R	T	O	E
r	l	p	s	d	w	k	n	s	o	f	n

THIS WEEK'S SIX LUCKIEST LOTTERY NUMBERS:

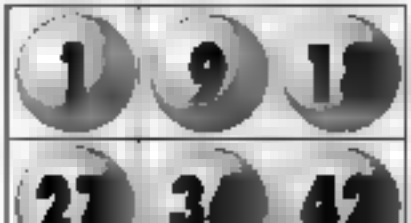
CUP A SPOT ON YOUR WALLET

Weekly World News has positioned another eight, to be the world's most powerful computer — and we say it is also the luckiest lottery numbers every week!

The Science-built computer, called Eight Ball, has the ability to calculate which lottery numbers are most likely to come up each week, based on previous performance and established tendencies. The numbers are good for the week the NEWS is on the newsstand.

The computer spews all numbers released to lotteries across America over the past year to provide a statistical base for predicting future results. Added value is given to the most recently released numbers.

Using all available data, the computer picks the



WEEKLY WORLD NEWS, August 18,

Weekly World News exclusive: The WORLD'S BIGGEST CROSSWORD!

ACROSS

1 Indian prince
5 Photographers
8 Poet Teasdale
10 Computer key
12 Wartime abbr.
15 California wine valley
18 Rocker Ekiis
19 Tropical fruit
21 Shrub extension
24 Library
25 Actor Sharif
28 Tranquil
29 Trust account
30 Director Cohen
32 Blowfly, as maggot
34 Pound sound
37 Disease-carrying fly
38 Type of cleaner
39 Elbow-bender's cause
41 Means of exit
42 Stick to
43 Carolina Capt.
46 Cheese type
48 Estancia plain
49 Counsel, advice
50 Hockey, Hasko
51 Postal code
52 Treasurer's course
54 Tennis great Arthur
55 Belfry hanger
56 Recess
57 Mainl ehna plate
58 Blessing sound
61 In Hallelujah
63 Clumsy clod
65 Revulsion
68 Rarin' to go
71 Helicopter blade
76 Mares nursery
75 Persisting to vessels
78 Swallow word
80 Nickname for grandma
81 Greek war god
82 The Dog Star
83 Pie — — mode
84 Manage
85 Hound, pester
88 Helpful person
90 From that place
91 Male for life.
94 Thus
96 Bounty, as eyes
97 Decapave move
98 Commercial
101 Mark erasable
105 Feel unwell
106 Promissory note
107 Gathered curtain line
111 Parks
112 Myself
113 Toward
114 Guarantee
115 Synthetic fiber (TM)
118 Blackbird monk
119 Lavish social event
119 Royal flower
123 Spirituous concoction
125 Gourmet
128 Wobbles
130 Seafood treat
134 Jail (Sl.)
135 Cave in
136 Infect horse
138 Partners and soulmates
141 Supply in a skillet
143 Building parcel
144 Prize
147 Actor Kristofferson
148 Individuality
150 Brilliance of success
153 Protestant
155 Musical syllable
158 Morning abbreviation
160 New York city
160 Last rites; extreme —
161 Before Grande or Brava
168 Hound for payment
167 Caves in agnes
168 Letter addition
169 Docking
172 Optical instrument
176 "All that glitters — not gold"
177 Terminate
178 Blessed
187 Encryption
183 Lethargic, sluggish
184 Unbroken
187 "It — the best of times..."
188 Tire bearing
189 Jommycake
191 Garden bulb
192 Given geometrician
195 Horror movie character
197 Stair part
198 Mobil — horse
200 Exhibit
202 Police district
204 "Drive that is one Sinatra
205 Massachusetts town
207 "Snug — — bug in a rug"
208 "Every day — like day"
217 Actress O'Donnell
213 Starbuck's chief
214 Religion
217 Morning gemstone
219 Evil
220 Bandered
221 Electronic signal
223 Corpus delicti
224 Put up with
228 Phoenix
231 Surround
233 Metamorphose
234 Wager
235 Deadwood
236 Batman's city
237 Carbon (Abbr.)
238 Losing
239 Financial obligation
241 Fishy delicacy
242 Grief
244 Speech impediment
246 Sports commissioner
247 Struggle
248 Bubble
249 Type of cocktail
251 Sea eagle
252 Female ruff
253 Passive word
254 Dogmatist
255 Doctorphor
256 Austrian currency unit

DOWN

1 Weapon
2 "Where The Boys —"
3 Canned beef dish
4 Fulvous cat
5 Fallopian person
6 Outer lobe
7 Small quantity
8 Newsman Jim
9 Pasta shape
11 Boat oil
12 Choral composition
13 Cosmetic
14 Sting upon oneself
16 Brassware
17 Soft drink
19 Actress Dawn
20 G-man Elliot
22 "You — what you like"
23 Four-bagger
25 Air Force subdivision
27 Plaid material
31 Formally rescind
33 Metallic rock
35 Actress Fontaine
36 Parody
39 McCartney & Stevens
40 "Be — where..."
43 Greek letter
44 Mythological gem
45 Leave in the lurch
47 Saturates
50 Brass
53 Cleveland
55 Computer guru Dobbs
58 And others (Latin)
57 The World — Center
58 Used a counter
59 She through the boudoir
60 Repeatedly
62 Mart
64 Ecstatic
66 Stereo component
67 Actress Seay
69 Cattle
70 Tiny bony
72 Reader's tool
74 Pool stick
77 Mason's need
79 Type of dairy
81 Church table
84 Jubilant
87 Dress type
89 Back of the head
91 Red carpet person
92 See-through fabric
93 Quivering movement
95 Spiritual empathies
99 "To err is — ..."
100 Involve oneself
103 Make into law
103 Tally's track
104 Novelist Fleming
108 "Stop — — alone"
109 Squirrel's snack
110 Draw audibly
112 Responses
113 South American cowboys
120 World workers
121 Short composition
126 Son of Abraham
129 Squander
127 Long, long time
128 "As — World Turns"
129 Mr. Reagan
131 Cardiac line (at Aktor)
132 Hawaiian garland
133 Vespers call
136 Egyptian dam
137 Round and layered
139 Potpourri basket
140 Open area
141 Norwegian man
143 Very small
144 Singer
145 Electrical path
146 Latin hymn "Agnus — "
147 German emperor
149 Impression
150 And so forth (Abbr.)
151 Sky
152 Chorus
154 Stone shoes
156 Fabric counterpart
157 Look up to
159 Winter hanger
162 Expression of distaste
163 At a distance
164 Make a choice
165 British title
168 Lisa cartier
170 Mozart work
171 Center of Islam
172 Coarse and scratchy
174 Barbecue skewers
176 Senseless
178 Actor Cassel
179 Stitch together
180 Prison room
181 Comedian Bill, to friends
183 Poorly illuminated
185 Measure of wind
186 Nervous twitch
188 Curved entryway
188 Beam or points
190 Video imaging unit
192 Diagonal sail pole
194 Edict
198 Spin alone
197 Mechanical man
199 "Where there's a will there's — —"
Elver
Italian city
Short message
Supply to spouse
Med school subject
Religious faction
Alphabet member
Martial artist Bruce
Four-door car
Tangy fish
Auction prize
Boon
Bear froth
Revolutionary Paul
Source of licorice
Actor Hallmark
Bit for a pomax
Trio number
Hostile
Catch a glimpse of
S-shaped molding
Bear or Berra
Socce lineup
Unit of weight

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BIGFOOT

Weekly World News exclusive: The WORLD'S BIGGEST CROSSWORD!

WE LIVE BETTER THAN KINGS DID IN THE 'GOOD OLD DAYS'

By GEORGE FIKE

Ever wish you could live like a king? Well, Americans today live far better than any king did in "the good old days," according to experts.

"The poorest guy today lives better than a king used to," said Herman Kahn, a renowned expert.

"If you described the average man's life style today to people of earlier centuries they would have said, 'These men are living like gods.'"

"For instance," Dr. Ann Peters commented, "Americans now take for granted indoor plumbing — something kings of old never had.

"Sanitation in the castles of Europe was horrible. Some of the palaces literally stank because of lack of facilities.

"We now take a shower with at most hot and cold running water as we stick merely by rotating a dial. And modern bathroom facilities make life far more comfortable and hygienic than any king could possibly imagine."

Royalty, like their subjects, were "plagued" by all kinds of insects — because there were no window screens, Peters said.

"Besides screens, we also have insecticides to rid our kitchens and bedrooms of unwanted pests. The crude kings of past centuries, Americans can go around easily," Peters said.

"Kings never had our modern conveniences — [illegible] planes and automobiles," added Kahn.

"Any American can simply pick up the phone and talk to somebody anywhere in the world," said Peters.

"In the old days a king had to resort to messengers."

"The kings did not have most any health care," Kahn commented. "They didn't have access to modern surgery, nor did they have antibiotic drugs such as penicillin.

"Dying early in pestilence was normal," Peters said. "Even kings could not get away from it."

And, Kahn noted, modern life expectancy for the average man is far above that of any king in the past. "Statistically speaking, life expectancy has gone from about 30 or so to now around 72 years of age."

"Every American takes for granted a standard of good living," Peters said.

"Modern eye charts and special equipment for making glasses would have been magic not to the kings of the past.

"And the same goes for hearing. An American with hearing problems can get marvelous devices to improve his hearing. But if a king started to go deaf all around him would be [illegible]

Mother of Tom Quinns had to laugh, too many queens died giving birth, and it no emergency arose it often cost the mother her life — if not that of the child, as well.

"Today the statistics of living in the countryside has been almost completely eliminated by things like TV and transportation," Kahn said. "While kings in the countryside had some hilarious, they certainly didn't have many. They were isolated like everyone else."

JUNIOR LAWYERS

The job of a psychologist is to discover what makes you tick before you blow up.

Lettuce is No. 1 veggie in U.S.!

Lettuce is by far the most popular fresh vegetable in America, says the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Last year Americans ate 23.1 pounds of fresh-market lettuce per person — and nearly a pound of that consumed, 10.1 pounds, was lettuce.

Americans also consumed an average of 19.1 pounds of celery, the second most popular fresh vegetable; 14.5 pounds of tomatoes; 4.1 pounds of cabbage; 3 pounds of celery; 2.5 pounds of corn; and 1.6 pounds of spinach.

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PELICANS PECK MAN TO DEATH

NEWS EXCLUSIVE! STORY AND PHOTOS!

. . . because he smelled like fish!

FISHY SMELL says Howard Ramstola on the

HORRIFIED Maria Ramstola Howard's sister witnessed the tragic attack

By KEVIN CREED - Weekly World News

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — A man was pecked to death by more than 100 ravenous pelicans — because he smelled like fish!

The incident occurred as Howard Ramstola, 26, and his sister Maria were walking on a pier where several attacks have been reported over recent months.

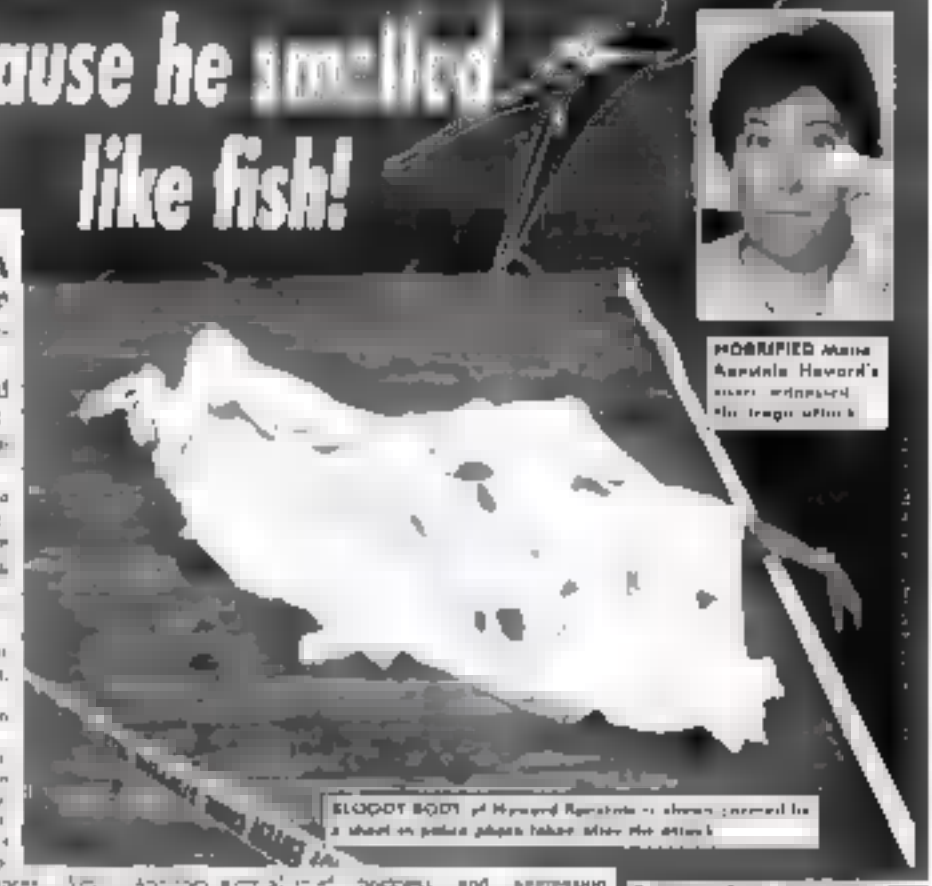
Maria Ramstola says her brother suffered from a rare genetic condition that caused him to emit a fish-like chemical odor. Authorities believe the birds were provoked to attack by the strong fish smell emanating from the man's body.

The other attacks in the area were unprovoked, and all victims were wearing fish at the time.

Miss Ramstola says the pelicans descended on her brother suddenly in what she describes as a "furious, screeching mass."

"I tried to beat them away, but there were just too many," she said.

Preliminary reports indicate that Ramstola died to death from severe wounds to the carotid artery — the main artery in the neck that carries blood to the brain. But party medics said he had marks all over his body from the birds' bills and sharp claws. Experts say pelican related deaths are very rare, but they do happen under certain circumstances. "These conditions seem to be present in most pelican attacks," one ornithologist told Weekly World News. Authorities were at a loss to explain the behavior of the normally docile creatures.



BLOODY BODY of Howard Ramstola is shown covered by a sheet as police paper below after the attack

MORE than 100 hungry pelicans like these converged on Howard Ramstola, pecking him to death

Yet, Authority were at a loss to explain the behavior of the normally docile creatures and aggression when there are a lot of them. Second, the birds were very hungry.

"Because of the red tide population problem, there wasn't enough food and they were desperate."

"Third, the smell of fish was to the air. Most attacks are against fishermen, whose hands and arms are covered with fish innards."

"In Ramstola's case, because of the chemical condition, the smell was very strong."

The pier has been temporarily closed to fishermen.

VANDALS NAILED — BY A COPY MACHINE!

WREXHAM, Wales — Two 16-year-old boys broke into an office building and used a copy machine to take goofy pictures of themselves — but ended up in jail when they stupidly left some of the pictures behind!

Cops arrested the lads within 24 hours thanks to a perfect photo of the teens' hands by pressing their faces against the copier.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

MIRACLE DONKEY HEALING SICK IN JERUSALEM

BLESSED BEAST: Hagar has cured hundreds of people according to reports.

. . . and DNA experts say animal is a direct descendant of one that Jesus rode!

By MIKE FOSTER Weekly World News

JERUSALEM — DNA scientists have confirmed that the so-called "Miracle Donkey" that has been making headlines here for months really is a direct descendant of a donkey Jesus rode nearly 2,000 years ago!

The amazing animal named Hagar is said to have uncanny healing powers that have baffled physicians.

"It sounds unbelievable, but I have personally seen crippled children who have ridden that donkey suddenly walk again. And people who've been blind for years have had their sight restored after petting her," said Israeli newspaperman Shimon Ishaiya, who has been covering the story.

PALM SUNDAY: Jesus riding through Jerusalem.

Hagar's owner, sheep farmer Ephraim Epstein, says that it has been a traditional belief in his family for countless generations that the 4-year-old mare's forebearers could be traced back to the donkey Christ rode through Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

That event, as described in the Gospels, began when Jesus commanded his disciples to find him a donkey so he could enter the city in a humble manner. "And the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them, and brought the ass . . . and they set him thereon" (Matthew 21:6-7).

Other donkeys in Hagar's line are said to have had mysterious abilities and a strange devotion to Christianity. But it wasn't until March of this year that gentle big-eyed Hagar first began to exhibit supernatural healing powers.

"My little girl was very ill with brain cancer — terminally ill! The doctors said — but she had been begging to ride Hagar for months and I reluctantly let her," said Ephraim. "The next week we went to the hospital for tests and there was no sign of the cancer. The doctors just couldn't explain it."

Word spread, and many sick were flooding the farm, which lies on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

According to reports, as many as 400 people claim to have been healed by the Miracle Donkey — from conditions ranging from deafness to heart disease visits to Jerusalem.

Recently, a team of Israeli geneticists compared a blood sample taken from Hagar to marrow extracted from the femur bone of Christ's donkey. The bone had been preserved by early Christians and had been kept in a church in Rome for centuries, regarded as a sacred relic.

Dr. David Lubow confirmed: "It is 99.9 percent certain that Hagar descends from that animal."

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MAJOR U.S. HEALTH PROBLEM:

LOVE ADDICTION!

Millions of American suffer from love addiction — a craving for affection so strong that it's almost like being hooked on drugs, experts say.

But there are ways to overcome it, they add.

"To quote an old song, the love addict feels you're nobody till somebody loves you. He keeps seeking someone who will thus validate his existence," says Dr. George Steele. Love addicts are created when a person does not get enough constant love or parental attention as a child, he noted.

"Every male he chooses will prove to be a disappointment because he cannot be close to a replica of his disliking for his mother.

"The love addict's demands will be so extreme and one-sided that he'll drive love partners away ... or perhaps maintain a semblance of a marriage while portraying a series of affairs," said Dr. Steele, a professor of psychiatry. "The love addict is constantly driven by the fear that he's a nobody. And when he at times proves unsatisfying, he turns to other addictions that can be truly self-destructive. Love addiction affects millions of Americans.

"It is a major public health problem," according to Dr. Jack Lewis, a noted psychologist.

Here are some tips from Dr. Lewis on how to overcome a love addiction:

- Build your own self-esteem. Join a volunteer group where sharing and helping are the main goals ... and you'll learn that giving can be as much fun as receiving.
- Redirect your energies. Do one sense of your time to a worthy charity.
- Swap your love addiction for one that's less destructive. One such is an interest in music or the theater. Or maybe you'll get involved in sports.

Setting a target will help you find your perfect Valentine from the romantic relationships temporarily.

- Some breathing space will give you a chance to reassess your life, the relationship and your personal goals.
- Observe couples who have successful relationships.
- Listen to your innermost fears and desires. Here you'll find strengths and weaknesses.

And later there be strategies for both you and your date.

Learn to recognize other addicts. If you're a recovering love addict and you see a mirror image of yourself in a prospective partner, don't pursue the relationship.

It is certainly distressing the disaster and could be very dangerous to your health. Even...

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MANY BEAT CANCER WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING THEY'VE HAD IT!

Many healthy people have survived cancer during their lives without even knowing it, top experts say.

"It's a puzzling medical phenomenon," declared Dr. Johnny Higginson, a cancer specialist.

Scientists believe natural killer cells, or "policemen" cells, are constantly patrolling the body on the lookout for cancer cells.

When cancer cells appear, the "policemen" cells swing into action and then destroy them, the experts say.

"Most people feel it's quite

"This all how cancer cells of the body.

"It's a matter of whether they are allowed to the immune system — or triggered by some other explanation — to take on to avoid cancer," said Dr. Higginson. Researchers also discovered that tampering with a person's immune system — such as prescribing certain drugs — dramatically increases the risk. According to Dr. Higginson, who studied policemen with the likelihood of such people developing cancer "goes

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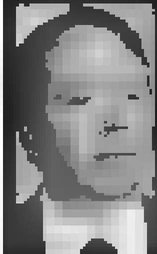


HISTORIAN Bruce Morriston.

Rare Photo of Legendary Indian Princess Pocahontas Authenticated

By KEVIN CREED / Weekly World News

CLOSE SCRUTINY of Pocahontas photo reveals she was extremely flat-chested, with a masculine face and rough and weathered skin.

. . . AND SHE'S UGLY AS SIN, says historian

RICHMOND, Va. — Americans have always believed 17th-century Indian princess Pocahontas was a gorgeous temptress. But experts have now confirmed the authenticity of a photo that reveals she was downright ugly!

The high-tech enhancement of the recently discovered photo shows the legendary "beauty" was flat-chested and rough-skinned with hard, masculine features. The picture was taken sometime around 1614.

The revelation comes as a shock to history students, who know Pocahontas captured the hearts of the men of Jamestown, the first English settlement in America.

In the early 1600s, her father, Chief Powhatan, ordered his braves to smash the head of English Captain John Smith. But love-struck Pocahontas threw herself on the ground beside Smith, saying, "If he dies, I die." Her father relented and let Smith live.

Since then, she's been the stuff of romantic legends. History paints her as a sexy seductress whose looks made men swoon.

But historian Bruce Morriston, arguably the foremost expert on the Jamestown settlement, has thrown cold water on that notion.

"In 1997, I was searching through some relics unearthed near the Jamestown site," says Morriston. "This photo was found in a leather pouch with a land deed and some other important papers belonging to an uneducated settler named Matthew Hawthorne.

... ly scrawled word 'Pokahanta' — obviously a misspelling of Pocahontas.

"A close examination of the picture shows the markings on ... of Powhatan ... the ... on ... famous canoe.

"The space-age, ultra-sophisticated enhancement of the old photo also reveals two scars on the woman's body — one on the shoulder, the other on the ...

"We were almost sure it was her when we found the photo two years ago. But to make sure, we had a team of experts examine it. They have now confirmed its authenticity.

"It's clear that Pocahontas' charm was in her personality and presence. ... beautiful if they ... well."

Many people were surprised to learn that there were cameras in the 1600s. But although the history of sophisticated photography dates from the Civil War, there were actually crude cameras used as early as the 1560s — 50 years before Pocahontas was born.

HOW TO USE YOUR MIND TO STOP ANY ITCH!

You can stop an itch by using the amazing power of your mind, says a top psychiatrist.

Dr. William Appleton explained one simple technique for using mental imagery to make a nagging itch go away:

"Lie down or sit comfortably and relax. Close your eyes. Take a few deep breaths, slow and even. When you feel relaxed, focus on a picture in your mind ...

"Then realize your body is like this chain. Even though every organ, limb and area of the skin is connected, they are still independent of each other.

"If you have an itch on your knee, it doesn't affect your leg or foot or ... itch. Concentrate on this itch. This itch is like the one link in the chain.

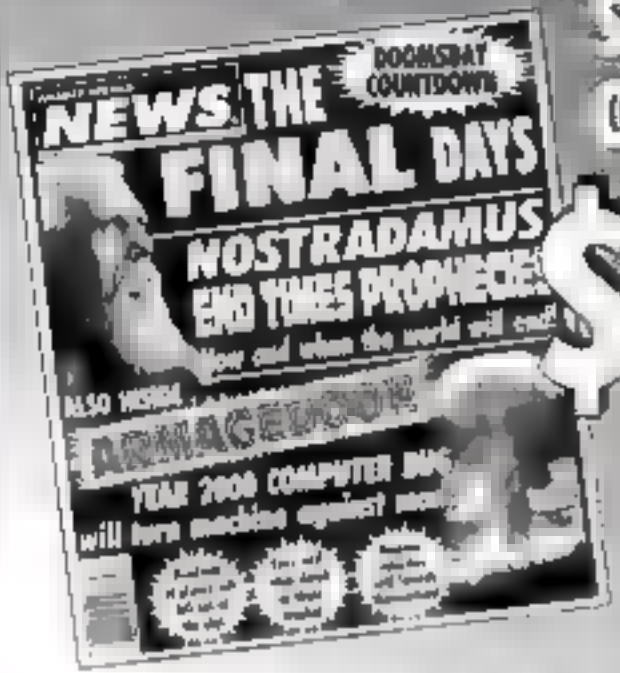
"In your mind, unlink the one link ...

Although an itch may have a physical cause, the severity is largely psychological, studies show.

Here's another technique that can stop an itch: "Imagine yourself with a ... of magical soothing substance.

"Mentally apply it to the spot that itches," said Dr. Appleton.

Weekly World News



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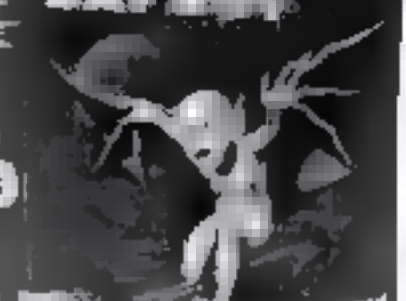

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Do cell phones REALLY cause cancer?

By R. NEALE LIND / Weekly World News

It depends on who you're talking to!

WASHINGTON — Do cell phones cause cancer? After more than a decade and hundreds of millions of dollars in research, the answer is a definite maybe!

For at least 10 years, scientists have known that cellular telephones emit low levels of energy, called radiofrequency radiation. And from the beginning, there have been those who believe that radiation is doing bad things to the brain — including causing malignant tumors.

The question is not whether the phones emit radiation. That's a question to which the answer is yes. After hundreds of studies, there's still no doubt about it.

One independent public health watchdog firm, Wireless Technology Research (WTR), has spent the last five years and more than $25 million reviewing data from cellphone studies worldwide.

"Unfortunately, there's nothing conclusive either way," said WTR's public affairs consultant, Tommy Moore. "For every study that indicates cellphone radiation is harmful, there's another study that 'proves' it isn't."

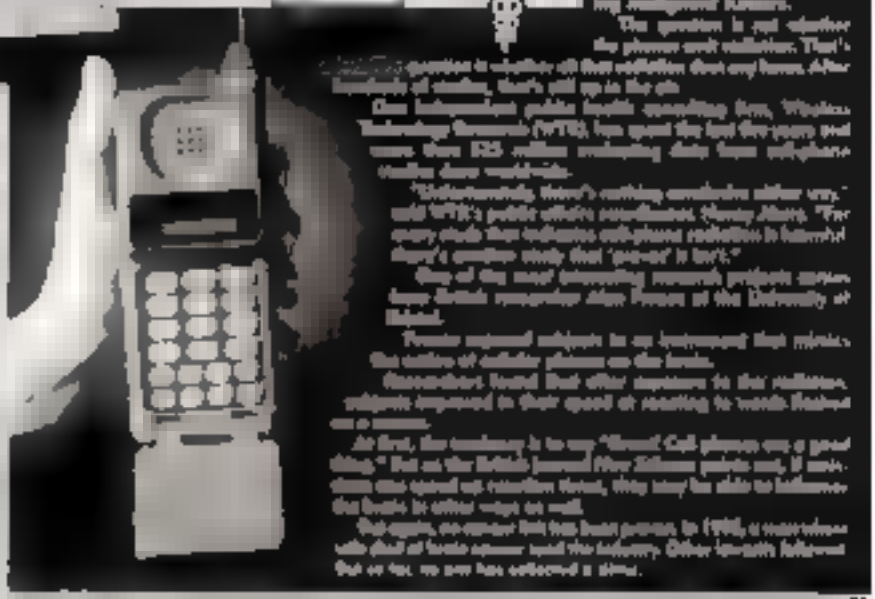
One of the most interesting research projects comes from Swedish researcher Alvin Persson at the University of Lund.

Persson exposed subjects to an instrument that mimics the effects of cellular phones on the brain.

Researchers found that other exposure to the radiation subjects experienced in their quest at reaching to words finished with a scream.

At first, the conclusion is to say "Overall Cell phones are a good thing." But as the British journal New Science points out, if scientists can speed up reaction times, they may be able to influence the brain in other ways as well.

Once again, we cannot find the best person, in 1998, a researcher who died of brain cancer used the industry. Other brought followed that on her, we now has collected a stone.



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Never suffer from neck pain again!

Nagging neck pain caused by stress can be relieved with simple relaxation techniques, experts say.

Here's what to do: Take an over-the-counter analgesic like aspirin. "Then lie on a bed in a dark, quiet room, free from distractions, and methodically relax every muscle in your body," says neurologist Dr. Nizam T. Mathew.

"Start with your toes. Concentrate on relaxing them. Every time you exhale, imagine that your toes are becoming more and more relaxed.

"Then relax the muscles in both feet. Next move up to your ankles, shins, calves, knees, thighs and so on. Take special care to relax all the muscles in your back, neck and shoulders.

"Once you have completely relaxed all your muscles, stay quiet and breathe gently for five minutes. Then get up and go back to work. A muscle relaxation technique like this shouldn't take so that your neck muscles will stop their painful spasms," he said. And Dr. Neil Parker, a psychiatrist, called the technique "a safe and effective

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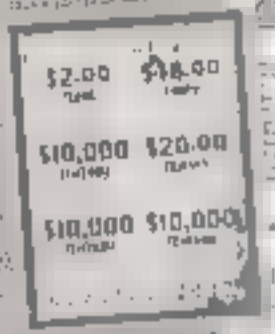
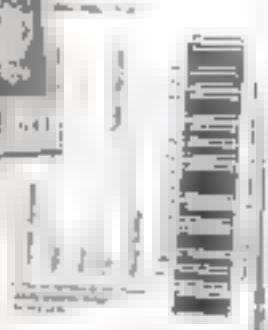
WIFE BEATS THE HELL OUT OF HUSBAND AFTER HE GIVES HER A FAKE $10,000 LOTTERY TICKET!

Evidently, she didn't get the joke!



AT first glance, it is easy to see how anyone could be fooled by the phony lottery ticket above. Right, the back of the lottery ticket reveals it is indeed a fake



STARKE, Fla. — A husband thought he was pulling a hilarious practical joke when he slipped his wife a fake lottery ticket to make her think she'd won $10,000! But when Sarah Pinburg found out the ticket was a phony, she went berserk — and beat her husband Rick unconscious with a rolling pin!

By ALEX MORGAN
Weekly World News

"I was so excited when I thought we'd won all that money because we needed it ... and needed it bad," explained bungalow-bra Sarah, 36.

"I was jumping up and down, making a fool of myself in front of all our friends when suddenly he admitted that it was all a joke and we hadn't won a cent. The next thing I knew he was out cold on the floor and I was standing over him with a rolling pin in my hand.

"The prank grew wrong started during a July 4th weekend party at the Pinburg home.

"The night was a jolly one made to look like one of those scratch-off tickets you buy at the supermarket. The 10 was at least seven digits long ... doesn't look like now, but it was a shock.

"I thought the date [illegible] a couple of weeks before as a [illegible] but I was children's [illegible] the perfect moment to give it. Sarah [illegible] to the store for ice and beer and when I got back I [illegible] it to her.

"I've never seen her so happy. She was screaming around and hugging everybody in sight.

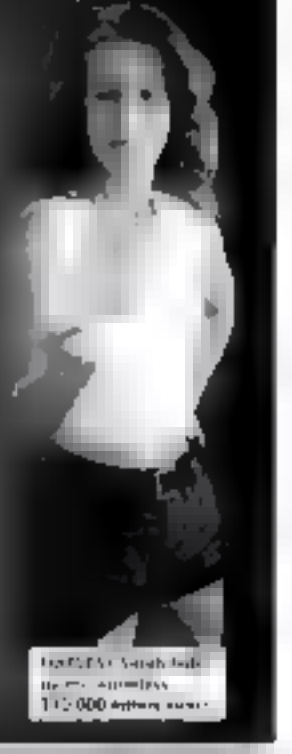
"I started dreading the moment I was going to have to tell her the truth because I was afraid she might pass out or [illegible]

"The rolling pin was hanging right there on the kitchen wall and I was so furious I just grabbed it and started hitting her over the head before I realized what I was doing. The sisters of [illegible] restrained [illegible] while people trying to hold me back, but I was so mad there was no stopping me.

"I hit him a couple of times on the head and he went down. It [illegible] bloody.

"Rick suffered a minor concussion, and needed 12 stitches to close a gash on his head, but he refused to press charges against Sarah.

"I pulled a mean trick on her and I got what I deserved," he said.

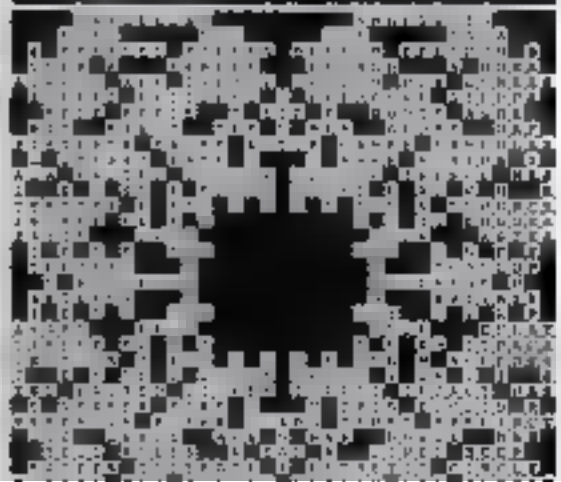


Enraged Sarah Pinburg [illegible] $10,000 lottery ticket

I try to paint myself I only think about girls on days that begin with the letter T today. Tomorrow, Thursday, Thursday, Thursday and Thursday.

As soon as Rick Pinburg revealed the practical joke he had played on Sarah, she went for her trusty rolling pin and belted him over the head.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION



12 PREGNANT GALS GET STUCK IN ELEVATOR FOR 3 HOURS — & TWO GIVE BIRTH!

BOURGES, France — Twelve pregnant women and four stressed husbands were stuck in a stalled elevator for three hours — and two of the women got so panicky they gave birth right there on the elevator floor! The 16 people were on their way to a childbirth class in a downtown office building when the elevator became stuck between the third and fourth floors. "Many of us had ever witnessed a childbirth before, so when these ladies started carrying on, didn't really know

These three people the hereafter and

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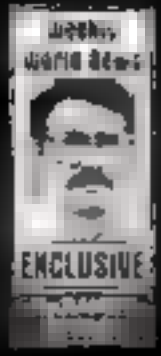
LIFE AFTER DEATH



EDITOR'S NOTE: What happens to our souls when we die? Do we even have a soul? Is there a Heaven? Does it make any difference what we do with our time on Earth? Few people can answer these age-old questions with one-hundred-percent certainty. But some claim to know — and to know from experience — that we are not just a body and a brain, that what we really are goes on forever! Three such people are Jack Erickson of Schenectady, N. Y., Dr. Andrea Mercuri of Pisa, Italy, and Rev. Raymond James of Perth, Australia. All three have had what medical doctors and theologians call an "out of body experience." And all of them have documented evidence to support their astounding claims of visiting — and returning from — the afterlife. Here, exclusively for Weekly World News readers, are their dramatic stories, told in their own words:

I was glad that it was all going to be a dream," Raymond says.

I lay on the operating table. Three of the most horrible demons yanked me from my body as surgeons worked frantically to restart my heart with the defibrillator.

The demons were rough and their hands were cold. There was a chilling, lifelong fear that all those who entered like the hands of the Lord.

It was an unbearable hell that the very air was burning my flesh.

We reached the bottom and I was in a dark, ugly basement. Several more demons joined them and they beat me and tortured me for a long time.

Finally, one of the demons said, 'We've been ordered to give you one more chance to change your evil ways. If you don't we'll be back for you and this time we'll keep you.'

They gave me some food from the floor of the horrible place. We were told and told me to bring it back as proof that there really is an unbelievable spiritual people.'

Doctors who operated on Raymond confirm that when he was brought back to life, some strange marks were on his hand. They were similar to coal but scientists say their existence is unlike that of anything found on Earth.

Raymond James has repented his criminal life and is now a Presbyterian minister.

say they've seen lived to tell the tale!

ANDREA MORETTI

JACK LASHTON

Fascinating facts about why people laugh!

By PORTER MARTIN
World Staff Writer

What makes us laugh? How often do we laugh? Here are the fascinating facts science has learned about our funny bone and what tickles it:

Q IN MIXED GROUPS, WHICH SEX SMILED MOST AND WHICH JOKED MOST?

A By far the most joking is done by men and the most smiling is women, one university study found. Both sexes laugh about equally as much.

Q "WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT QUALITY IN TELLING JOKES WELL."

A A lively way of talking that's more relaxed and assured in jokes than when talking about serious matters. Next in importance is a sense of humor, a sense of timing, good memory, being brief, sensitivity to the nature of the audience, self confidence, being outgoing and quick thinking.

Q DO WE LAUGH MORE AND FIND COMEDY FUNNIER WHEN IT'S ACCOMPANIED BY A LAUGH TRACK?

A Yes and no. People listening to tape-recorded jokes laughed more when there was a laugh track in the background during an experiment in England. However, when though subjects laughed more, they did not rate the jokes any funnier than when there was no canned laughter.

Q AT WORK, DON'T PEOPLE IN INGENIUS JOBS JOKE MORE THAN THEIR BOSSES?

A Surprisingly, no. In a study of staff meetings at a Boston hospital, it was discovered that the highest ranking doctors joked more often than the junior staff doctors and paramedics below them. Similar results were found in university studies involving all other occupations.

Q DON'T GROUPS WITH JOKERS GET LESS WORK DONE?

A No. In a UCLA experiment, groups that contained a frequently witty person were more satisfied with their situation and worked better on problem tasks than groups that had no humorous person.

Q WHAT SITUATIONS EVOKE OUR LAUGHTER?

A It was found that 31 percent of laughter is caused by unsarcastic, putdowns, clever remarks and the

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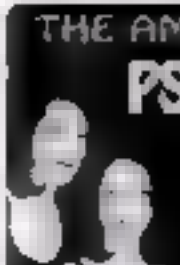

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GIANT HOROSCOPE

By SERENA SARAH
PSYCHIC ASTROLOGER TO THE RICH AND FAMOUS

For the week of August 9

ARIES

Mar. 21 — Apr. 19

Your courageous nature will be called upon to help in a family crisis this week. Remember that being brave doesn't mean you have to be foolhardy. Don't rush the situation.

A struggle exist you witness will help you solve a seemingly impossible problem in another area of your life.

Use caution when travelling this weekend.

TAURUS

Apr. 20 — May 20

This week, stop being so left around the house. Your habit of letting things slide has gone on for long. Picking up the house is a mess and you should catch up on chores you're keep postponing.

Your loyal nature will be tested later than week when a pal gets in trouble. Don't take sides.

Some kind of accident for the kid's week, it was rather there.

GEMINI

May 21 — June 20

The pressures may be getting to you on the job and at home with regard to the next few days because of your personality and optimism.

Consider any financial schemes that could add to your bank account. Consult with others first — especially Aunt Scorpion.

Fun and romance are definitely in the cards this week. Enjoy.

CANCER

June 21 — July 22

Don't let ingrates behind this week and head out on a long overdue romp in search of a new adventure. Love is just around the corner! Start now to meet people and experiences.

This is a good time to celebrate with your friends. Your fraternal leanings to cling can be frustrating. Loved ones, especially are offending eager to leave the nest.

LEO

July 23 — Aug. 22

Surprise, surprise — you haven't seen as many problems over life in a shocking way this week, bringing emotional turmoil you where you thought you had things well in hand. Think before you act.

Your love-like playfulness and self-assurance may rub an observer who can make life much more pleasant. Be at your best — don't let a good opportunity pass you by.

VIRGO

Aug. 23 — Sept. 22

Avoid that chip on your shoulder and polish up your social skills. You'll something you've always wanted to within your reach but you'll need all charm and tact to make the dream come true. Work your charm on those who can help you.

As a Virgo you're in constant pursuit of perfection and that drive pays dividends this week. Others will reward you.

LIBRA

Sept. 23 — Oct. 22

Outside people can create trouble situations for you in the next few days. Keep your temper and the unpleasantness will pass.

Continued reliance on your romantic ally. Misunderstandings may crop up which will have to be resolved honestly.

You'll experience a surge of energy and ambition that should benefit you enormously in your daily life.

SCORPIO

Oct. 23 — Nov. 21

Expect some discoveries to crop here life this week.

Your stars indicate friction with those close to you, but all signs point to a peaceful resolution of your differences.

You may have a tendency to feel responsible about your future. Try to ignore these feelings. You'll disappear in a few days and you'll be back to your usual self!

SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22 — Dec. 21

This week holds the key to success if you are ever ready to develop your sense of qualities: honesty, generosity, wisdom and enthusiasm. Don't give in to depression. Think yourself up to working the responsibility of younger people.

Put a good face week of behaving fun and happiness to celebrate an event of a friend. Unexpected cash is heading your way.

[illegible]ORN

[illegible] — Jan. 19

Your Capricorn sense of timing can serve you well this week, especially in matters of romance. A member of the opposite sex is keenly interested in your personal affairs.

Readjustments in financial matters have been sapping your energy. As a result you're losing perspective. Take time out for your hobbies.

A phone call brings [illegible] news.

AQUARIUS

Jan. 20 — Feb. 18

This is a good week for [illegible] to have a personal checkup.

This is not the time for making life or death decisions. Put them on a back burner and contemplate options as less active thoughts. This is food time for relaxation and leaders.

If you sought counsel about letting [illegible] your best interests may [illegible]. You could do something you will regret later.

PISCES

Feb. 19 — Mar. 20

The key to success in any endeavor this week is perseverance.

Your Pisces tendency to dominate could cause a member [illegible] to rear [illegible] — you must guard against it!

Changes in romance threaten to throw you for a loop. In matters of the heart trust the urge to go it alone. Seek the advice of friends you trust. A [illegible] is about to pay off.

If your [illegible] this week

Romantic voyages may be in store for you this week. Your [illegible] in the planets bring into a positive contact [illegible] still unfamiliar.

And the single folks [illegible] this week, remember [illegible] should the [illegible] [illegible] you'll learn to handle the stress.

Random all over the country are eight possible winning Serena Sarah's Lucky Lottery Numbers to help those who like books, and to one and to find your lucky numbers, simply look down or under your birth sign in the chart below. If you need seven numbers for the lottery in your area, add your birthday. If you need fewer numbers, drop the numbers listed last.

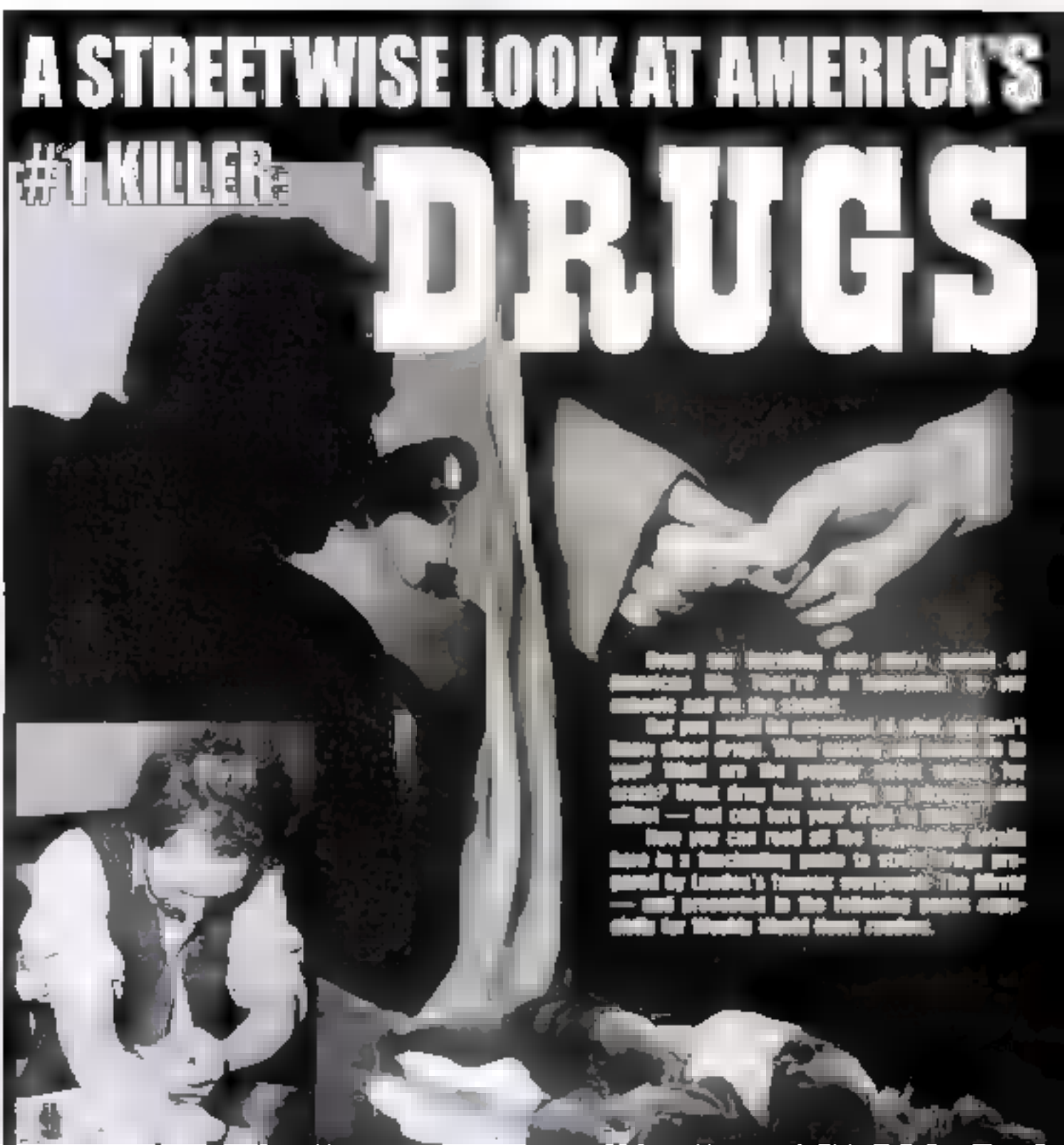
$ YOUR LUCKY LOTTERY NUMBERS $

ARIES	21, 28, 29, 33, 39,
TAURUS	3, 11, 17, 21, 39,
GEMINI	8, 13, 22, 23, 28,
CANCER	1, 3, 13, 25, 31,
LEO	9, 11, 15, 20, 24,
VIRGO	17, 19, 19, 23, 29,
LIBRA	4, 9, 18, 28, 32,
SCORPIO	15, 19, 24, 27, 38,
SAGITTARIUS	9, 13, 17, 22, 29,
CAPRICORN	4, 12, 16, 24, 34,
AQUARIUS	7, 10, 11, 21, 29,

A STREETWISE LOOK AT AMERICA'S

#1 KILLER:

DRUGS



THE SILENT KILLERS

CRACK

Crack is cocaine that has been processed — "washed up" — to make it more powerful. It can be 80 percent to 100 percent pure cocaine which makes it much more dangerous. It is the strongest and fastest stimulant of all. Crack comes as crystals that look like small rocks, varying in color from pale yellow or pink to white. It is generally smoked.

THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

❑According to the users, the intensity of the hit can't be exaggerated. It comes within seconds but is short-lived.

❑For a few minutes, 15 at the most, crack can give intense euphoria and an energy surge with an incredible sense of well-being and power.

❑Within 20 minutes of a hit the comedown begins with shakes and uncontrollable twitching.

❑Intense shivering follows. Sufferers will often feel weak, tired, paranoid, depressed and alone. Feelings of irritation and aggression are also quite common.

❑This comedown can last days and users say it's like tumbling down a slope covered in broken glass.

THE DANGERS

■Crack has been labeled the "one hit and you're hooked" drug. This isn't strictly true, but the nature of the drug is that if you try it your chances of becoming addicted are higher than with any other drug.

■Long-term crack use — and that means weeks not years — can lead to severe psychological problems. You may feel intense aggression, hatred and distrust of other people. Sufferers can become psychotic, delusional and violent.

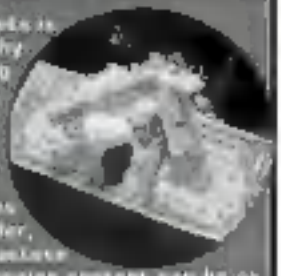
■Crack is so powerful that to use any drug with it is potentially lethal. It is extremely tough to kick crack because the craving is so strong. Horrible withdrawal symptoms often make users suicidal.

STREET NAMES: ROCK, WASH, CLOUD

COCAINE

The stuff sold on the streets is a substance called cocaine hydrochloride, made by refining the leaves of the coca bush, which grows mainly in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. It is a powerful stimulant and highly addictive.

Most street cocaine comes as a white crystalline powder, often "cut" with glucose, lactose or even amphetamines. The cocaine content can be as low as 30 percent.



THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

❑When "snorted", cocaine is absorbed through the blood vessels in the nostrils and reaches the brain in seconds, but the effects rarely last more than a half hour.

❑There's a sense of euphoria and well-being. Life looks rosy, stress and anxiety fall away. Energy levels rise and people want to chat, laugh and dance. Inhibitions go and some people feel sexually aroused.

❑If you've taken a large amount you could act strangely and violently. After the euphoric comes depression and paranoia.

STREET NAMES: CHARLIE, TOOT, SNOW

THE DANGERS

■Injecting cocaine is highly dangerous because there is a real risk of overdosing. Mixing it with heroin (speedballs) increases the chances of a lethal overdose even more because the two drugs amplify each other's effects.

■It is extremely difficult to quit. With regular cocaine use comes psychological dependence which is so deep-rooted it is difficult to treat.

■In the long term, users may become psychotic. They are also alarmingly underweight and malnourished.

■Male users won't be able to get or maintain an erection. "Snorting" gradually burns a hole between your nostrils.

HEROIN

A depressant drug produced by processing raw opium found in some oriental poppies. The opposite of a stimulant, it numbs the brain and the body and it kills pain. It is highly addictive. It comes in three forms: Brown is the most common, low-grade, messy, dirty powder cut with rubbish. It is smoked and should never be injected. China white comes in gray granules and is either smoked or injected. Pharmaceutical heroin is pure and for medicinal use.

THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

❑The heroin effect is big — bigger than almost any other drug. It's a powerful feeling that has no comparison in normal life.

❑Feelings of euphoria and waves of well-being flood in. Pain — physical and mental — disappears. The addictive effect is that you love yourself.

energized, impassioned and confident. Larger quantities send people into a trance-like state. Lost in an intense world, they can't and don't want to communicate with anyone.

❑The initial "rush" is followed by a mellow, chilled-out feeling that makes the world look rosy.

THE DANGERS

■Brown can sometimes be dissolved in vinegar or lemon juice but tends contain a fungus that can cause real problems if injected.

■Pharmaceutical heroin is so powerful that users of brown can overdose if they switch. With heavy use, abscesses, sores and open wounds can develop.

■Having quickly becomes the most important thing in an addict's life. You lose weight and don't wash but won't care because all you want is your next hit.

■On withdrawal, addicts suffer craving, panic attacks, sleeplessness, nausea, diarrhea, sweating, hot & cold flushes and cramps.

WARNING: SMOKING CAN KILL

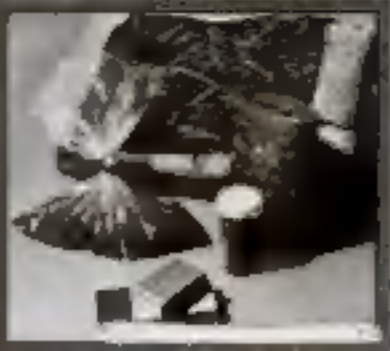
A STREETWISE LOOK AT AMERICA'S #1 KILLER: DRUGS

(Continued from Page 45)

CANNABIS

It comes from a plant called Cannabis sativa and the most active chemical — the one that gets you stoned — is delta-9-Tetrahydrocannibol (THC).

There are three forms: herbal, resin, and hash oil. The most common is herbal cannabis, made from the dried leaves and flowers of the plant. Resin is made by compressing the leaves and stems into blocks. Resin is usually mixed with tobacco in a hand-rolled cigarette but, like the herbal, can be eaten when added to foods. Hash oil is obtained when resin is dissolved, filtered and allowed to evaporate. It's either smeared on a cigarette paper and smoked, or mixed with tobacco.



THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

- ❑It often exaggerates the way a person already feels. It can make some people relaxed, happy and sociable — especially if they are with friends.
- ❑Users become talkative and think they have a "greater insight" into the world.
- ❑They lose their inhibitions so that they say and do things out of character. They often find everything hilarious.
- ❑An attack of the munchies — cravings for snacks — can occur. Users may have heightened sensations so that materials feel softer and colors appear brighter.
- ❑People can feel sick, dizzy and faint. Their judgement can be impaired and they may lose coordination.
- ❑They can feel too spaced-out to speak and may feel panic or paranoia. This can occur even with small amounts.

THE DANGERS

- ✖Cannabis stays in the body for longer than alcohol — around two months. For four or five days after using it you should not operate machinery or drive.
- ✖It can trigger mental problems in people who are predisposed to them and is risky for others with breathing trouble. Two drags is the equivalent of six to 10 cigarettes.
- ✖It can lower a man's sperm count and the sperm produced could be abnormal. Pregnant women could harm their unborn babies by using cannabis.
- ✖Some long-term, heavy users may get panic attacks, exaggerated mood swings and feelings of persecution.
- ✖Mixing cannabis with ecstasy or speed can make you seriously dehydrated and lead to other severe problems such as heart attacks or unconsciousness.

Street Names: GRASS, DRAW, SPLIFF, MARY JANE, POT

ACID

Acid (LSD or lysergic acid diethylamide) is an extraordinarily powerful, mind-altering drug, causing hallucinations. Acid is a transparent crystal in its pure form, but you won't find it like this. LSD is almost always soaked in small squares of blotting paper. The average amount in a acid tab is around 50 micrograms — enough to induce a fairly mild trip — but a tab could contain as much as 250 mcg, enough to cause the equivalent of a nervous breakdown.

THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

- ❑Effects start 30 minutes after taking it, and peak after about two hours. When people are on acid it affects what they see on the outside and how they feel on the inside.
- ❑Acid is unpredictable and should never be taken on the spur of the moment. If you are down, nervous, anxious or upset, you are more likely to have a "bad trip." If you are happy and relaxed, you're more likely to have a good one.
- ❑People on acid hallucinate — see things that aren't there. Sometimes these can be very unpleasant. Images change shape, colors become more vivid and textures feel different.
- ❑Users start to look at the world from a new perspective. Some say they understand things as never before. A good trip can be mellow, thrilling and mind-expanding, but a bad trip can be like a nightmare, triggering a drug psychosis as you can never quite escape the nightmares.

THE DANGERS

- ✖There's virtually no risk of physical side effects from taking acid and it's not addictive, but the mental effects can be very serious.
- ✖Because it's a mind-altering drug, acid can unlock a mental illness of which you weren't even aware. This can lead to depression, paranoia or even psychiatric treatment.
- ✖People have believed they could fly, with no water or stop traffic while on a "trip," putting themselves and others at risk. Even when a bad trip is over, it's possible to suffer terrifying flashbacks for weeks, months — even longer. Anything can trigger a flashback, so you can't take precautions against them. On a bad trip, the hallucinations that you experience can change weird and funny to terrifying.

Street Names: TRIPS, TABS, BLOTTERS

POPPERS

Small bottles of clear liquid, usually amyl nitrite, inhaled from the container or a cloth soaked in it. Fresh poppers smell sweet and fruity, but the stale chemical smells like old socks.

THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

- ❑There may be a burst of energy and a rushing sensation because the heart starts beating faster.
- ❑A sense that time has slowed down. A lowering of sexual inhibitions

THE DANGERS

- ✖Poppers are not addictive, but the effects can be pretty unpleasant — including fainting, nausea and headaches.
- ✖They are dangerous for anyone with a heart condition because they speed up heart rate and lower blood pressure. Also risky if you suffer from eye conditions.
- ✖Regular use can lead to skin problems around the nose and mouth.

WORLD NEWS August 10, 1997

MAGIC MUSHROOMS

They're wild mushrooms from two main plant groups — the psilocybe group and the amanita species. Similar in effect to acid, Liberty Cap — a small, pale yellow to light brown fungus with a slender stem and conical cap. It is dried whole and the pale cap darkens. Fly Agaric — Larger, bright red with white spots and a thick white stalk — the classic "fairytale mushroom." The dried cap is cut into sections. Dried mushrooms are smoked in a rolled cigarette or pipe.

THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

- People become excited and euphoric. They may giggle and find everything hilarious. They feel detached from the world.
- They become more engrossed in whatever they're doing.
- Some begin to see and hear things that aren't really there. Sounds and colors may become distorted or intense and things may change shape.
- Users may lose track of time.
- Some people say they feel things on their skin that aren't there.
- Others experience a mystical journey and a sense of spiritual enlightenment.

THE DANGERS

- It's impossible to predict the effect of even one mushroom or how many will bring on hallucinations.
- If you take mushrooms when you're not in the right frame of mind, you could have deep feelings of paranoia which will make you hysterical.
- The hallucinations can be absolutely terrifying and impossible to stop.
- There is a real danger of taking a poisonous variety. Some mushrooms can cause stomach pains, vomiting and diarrhea. Others can bring on respiratory failure, unconsciousness and death.

Street Names:
SHROOMS, MUSHIES

AMPHETAMINE

Amphetamine, or speed, is a stimulant that makes you more alert and energetic. It is a man-made drug created more than 100 years ago and comes as a white powder, or sometimes as a pill or paste. Speed is least dangerous when swallowed. Injecting it is highly dangerous as the heart can't take the shock.

THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

- Within 20-30 minutes (less if snorted or injected) there's a rush through the body and a feeling of being energetic, alert and self-confident.
- Everything speeds up and feels urgent. Users become very talkative and can stay awake for hours.
- Speed raises the body temperature, which can be very dangerous if mixed with alcohol or ecstasy.
- You may feel anxious and panicky. You can still be "wired" 12 hours after taking the drug.

Street Names:
SPEED, WHIZZ, BILLY

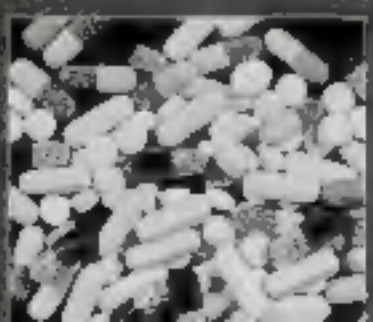
THE DANGERS

- A rocketing body temperature will make you delirious and could lead to heatstroke. If you drink too much water too quickly you may suffer water poisoning.
- Even if you are young and healthy, using speed can lead to a heart attack. Liver and kidney failure can occur if you mix it with alcohol.
- High blood pressure can cause small blood vessels to burst in your brain, leading to paralysis or coma.
- Heavy, regular use can lead to a mental breakdown and psychosis, which means you become paranoid, agitated and suspicious.

ECSTASY

The popular dance drug is the chemical, methylene dioxymethamphetamine (MDMA). Created in the U.S. in 1912, it was first used as an appetite suppressant, but was also found to calm feelings of anger.

Ecstasy releases mood-altering chemicals, such as serotonin and L-dopa, which occur naturally in the brain and have the effect of generating feelings of love and friendliness. It is also hallucinogenic. Tablets come in different designs, often with logos on them. MDMA may be cut (bulked out) with other rubbish such as calcium powder or even powerful drugs, such as Ketamine (a horse tranquilizer), giving horrible side effects.



THE EFFECTS ON USERS:

- After about 30 minutes the effects begin, peaking an hour and lasting 2-3 hours.
- Skin feels warm and tingly. Colors seem brighter.
- Music seems louder, more insistent.
- People want to hug.
- Your heart pounds, you may feel sick.
- You can become overstimulated, jumpy and panicky. You may start to hallucinate.
- You lose salt as you sweat, and you become dehydrated, which can lead to heatstroke.
- Your memory may go and you become disorientated. As it wears off, your mood sinks. You may feel

THE DANGERS

- Ecstasy inhibits the brain's thermostat, and your body temperature can rise. You could develop heatstroke, which can be fatal.
- Drinking too much water can cause the brain to swell, leading to unconsciousness and death.
- A rush of brain chemicals causes hallucinations.
- Ecstasy can interrupt blood flow to the brain and cause a stroke.
- One pill can cause fatal kidney and liver failure.
- Mixing ecstasy with other drugs can cause "clustering" — you feel cold and shiver violently, you feel you're going to die — and you might.

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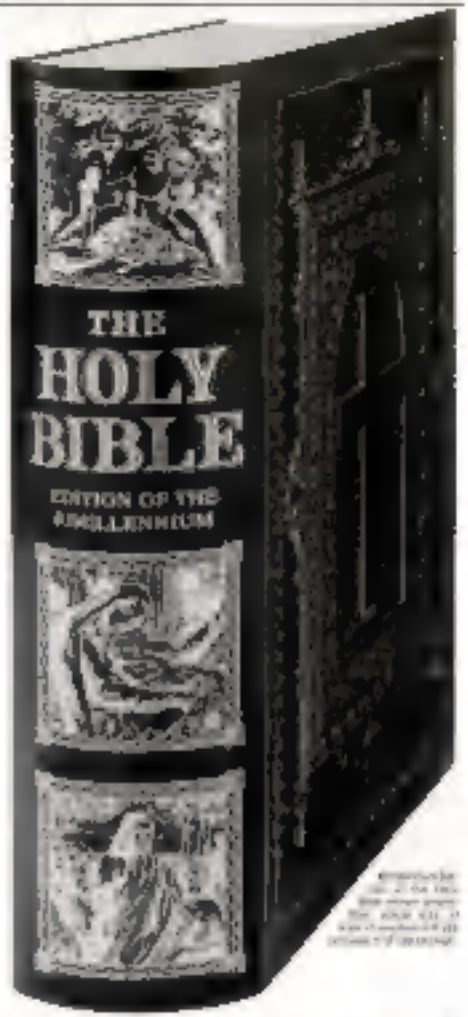

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